

Hafa Adai!

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**FOR TRAVELERS FROM LEVEL 1 JURISDICTIONS**

## No quarantine for fully vaccinated

### NEW JUDICIARY SEAL

JOSHUA SANTOS

The CNMI Judiciary's judges and Judiciary staff prepare to unveil the Judiciary Seal together as part of the events of the proclamation of May 14-21 as Law Week last Friday. The Judiciary Seal is a centerpiece of the Guma Hustisia's COVID-19 Screening and Security Zone. Inset shows the seal.

Story on Page 2



By JUSTINE NAUTA

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CORRESPONDENT

Fully vaccinated individuals who are coming in from areas that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has classified as Level 1 jurisdictions in its Travel Health Notice will no longer have to quarantine, effective today, May 17, 2021.

See QUARANTINE on Page 4

## 'CHCC getting \$2.38M for costs in administering COVID-19 vaccines'

### AT A GLANCE

As of 7pm, May 16, 2021

#### VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	20,442
Fully Vaccinated:	18,493
Moderna	
Initiated:	3,501
Fully Vaccinated:	2,740
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	137

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	8,063	16	8,079
Recovered	7,843	8	7,851
Active	73	16	89
Deaths	139	0	139
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			159,785

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	170	3	173
Traced via Travel Screening	134	3	137
Traced via Community Screening	36	0	36
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			26,131*
Days since last community transmission			60

\*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. is receiving \$2,383,674 to pay for personnel costs related to administration of the COVID-19 vaccines, according to Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) over the weekend.

In his e-kilili newsletter, Sablan also disclosed that the Commonwealth Ports Authority is receiving \$1,388,888 in

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Sablan

## MCS' Santos is US Presidential Scholar

By JOSHUA SANTOS

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REPORTER

Mount Carmel School senior Victoria Nicole Santos has been selected as one of 161 American high school seniors from all over the U.S. to be selected as a 2021 U.S. Presidential Scholar.

U.S. Secretary of Edu-



Santos

cation Dr. Miguel Cardona announced Santos' selection as Saipan's 2021 U.S. Presidential Scholar in an email

See MCS on Page 4

## Watching passion and perseverance pay off

By ADAM ZEWE

SEAS COMMUNICATIONS

Editor's Note: This article was originally published in The Harvard Gazette (<https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2021/05/robert-malate-21-puts-pas-sion-and-perseverance-into-play/>). Reprinted with permission.



Malate

When Harvard University "de-densified" the campus to prevent the spread of COVID-19 last

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### LOCAL

The U.S. Coast Guard helps repatriate Federated States of Micronesia citizens in Guam.

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Mount Carmel School music teacher and band director Julian Greening conducts a combined band made up of the MCS Jazz Knights and Wind Orchestra during day two of the 3rd Annual Spring Band Concert last Saturday at the Mount Carmel Cathedral. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

## Local

### MCS holds 3rd Annual Spring Band Concert

By JOSHUA SANTOS  
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REPORTER

Mount Carmel School held its 3rd Annual Spring Band Concert last Friday and Saturday at the Mount Carmel Cathedral. Day 1 featured performances from the school's 5th Grade Recorder Ensemble, MCS Beginning Band, and MCS Concert Band, while Day 2 featured a guest performance by the Su-san Band, the MCS Jazz Knights, and the MCS Wind Orchestra. The concert was originally scheduled to take place last year but was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The two-day musical affair featured performances of Disney classics like *The Lion Sleeps Tonight* from the *Lion King* and the main theme from *The Beauty and the Beast*, a Studio Ghibli medley featuring music from the films *Spirited Away*, *Howl's Moving Castle*, and *My Neighbor Totoro*, jazz classics like *Birdland* and Louis Armstrong's *What a Wonderful World*, and *Gurenge*, the opening theme from the anime *Demon Slayer*.

This concert, along with MCS' appearances at the Saipan Wind Band Festival, the National Music Festival+, and the school's celebration of International Jazz Day on April 30 this year, are all part of a much-needed bounce back by the school's music program following almost a year of inactivity in 2020.

In his closing statements, music teacher and band director Julian Greening thanked the Mount Carmel Cathedral for its permission to use the church as a concert venue, MCS teachers and administrators for helping take guest temperatures and distributing programs, and all parents and guardians of the musicians for their support. Greening also extended his gratitude to former MCS president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero for his support of the music program since its inception in 2017 and wished him all the best. "I will truly miss you, but I'm sure you will do great at your new position [as Northern Marianas College president]. Good luck on your new adventure that awaits you," said Greening.

#### MAY 14-21 IS LAW WEEK

### CNMI Judiciary unveils new seal

By JOSHUA SANTOS  
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REPORTER

The CNMI Judiciary proclaimed May 14-21 as Law Week during an event at the Guma Hustisia last Friday, with the theme this year being "Advancing the Rule of Law Now." In addition to announcing the winners of the yearly Law Week essay, poster, and seal design contests, the Judiciary unveiled its new seal at the Guma Hustisia's COVID-19 Screening and Security Zone. Shortly after the reveal, Justice John A. Manglona explained the symbolism behind the seal's many details.

According to Manglona, a Professional Development Conference was held in November 2018 where three proposed seal designs were presented to court staff. From there, the staff provided comments on what color certain parts of the seal should be, suggestions on certain wordings, and further input on other details. The addition of a *mwar* behind the Scales of Justice was largely in part due to a suggestion of the late Ursula I. Lifoifo-Aldan, who was the Judiciary's chief Probation Officer. "It's just heartbreaking that she's not here to witness this event," said

Manglona.

Along with the *mwar*, the seal features waves of varying shades of blue, which represent the driving force of justice and the sometimes-turbulent cases the Judiciary has to handle. Additionally, three *taga* stones represent the three main islands of the CNMI as well as to represent the three justices of the Supreme Court.

The colors present on the seal are used to "depict the natural beauty of the islands," said Manglona. Various shades of blue represent the water and the skies, while a mixture of gold, white, red, green, and brown represent the sun, vegetation, sand, and soil. The year 1989 is displayed on the seal, which is when the Commonwealth Judiciary was initially established as a statutory court. The Judiciary later became a constitutional court in 1997, making it "a true co-equal branch of government," as Manglona explained.

Finally, inscribed at the bottom of the perimeter of the seal is the "Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands."

The Supreme Court adopted the Judiciary seal on Jan. 17, 2019.



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24	25	May 26 Lunch Buffet Steak Night	May 27 Lunch Buffet Steak Night	May 28 Lunch Buffet Seafood Night	May 29 Lunch Buffet	May 30 Sunday Brunch
31	1	June 2	June 3 Lunch Buffet Steak Night	June 4 Lunch Buffet Seafood Night	June 5 Lunch Buffet	June 6 Sunday Brunch

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# Cell phones, cigarettes stolen at Shell gas station

By JUSTINE NAUTA

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REPORTER

Two persons were caught on surveillance camera stealing five cellphones and several packs of cigarettes at the Shell gas station in Puerto Rico last April 28. They re-

main unidentified.

According to a statement from the Department of Public Safety, police received a call about a burglary and theft incident at the gas station in Puerto Rico. Police were immediately dispatched to the scene, where they met with

the owner and manager of the establishment who confirmed that unknown individuals had broken into the station.

DPS said the first suspect is described as wearing a black hoodie, a pair of black long pants, a pair of black and white shoes, and a black face

mask. The second suspect is described as wearing a blue hoodie, a pair of black/camo long pants, a pair of black shoes, and a white face mask.

The items that were stolen include one BLU J5L cell phone, one BLU J7L cell phone, one BLU G50 cell

phone, one BLU G50 PLUS cell phone, one Samsung A02 cell phone, 13 packs of Camel Blue cigarettes, nine packs of Camel Menthol cigarette, 14 packs of Camel Menthol Silver cigarettes, six packs of Doral Menthol light cigarettes, five packs of Doral

Slim cigarettes, one pack of Kool Blue cigarettes, seven packs of Kool Green cigarettes, seven packs of L&M Blue cigarettes, seven packs of L&M Green cigarettes, nine packs of L&M Red cigarettes, eight packs of Pall Mall Blue cigarettes, seven packs of Pall Mall Green cigarettes, 11 packs of Pall Mall Black cigarettes, and eight packs of Redman Tobacco.

When asked why it took awhile for information on the robbery to be released, DPS public information officer Dre Pangelinan said they just received the video file and the inventory list yesterday.

"We try to release any media, especially with photos or video, out into the public as soon as possible, but in many cases surveillance footage access is locked and we are forced to await the companies/security firms' access," said Pangelinan.

Pangelinan said the inventory companies must find the exact numbers after they conduct a full inventory of the full store and not just the items that appears to be stolen. This also includes the storage area or any outside freezers or storage.

As the case remains ongoing, DPS would like to remind the public to be mindful of purchasing or being offered any cigarettes, tobacco products, or cellphones from any individual. If anyone knows any information related to the robbery or if you have any knowledge of the whereabouts of the items mentioned above, DPS encourages to call 911. If you wish to remain anonymous, call the CNMI Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272. Crime Stoppers pays up to \$1,000 for any information leading to an arrest.

## Members of 18th CNMI Youth Congress take oath of office

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

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REPORTER

Members of the 18th CNMI Youth Congress were sworn into office Saturday morning, with Cielo Citlalli Gutierrez Long, an incumbent representing the Tinian Junior/Senior High School, being elected speaker during an organizational session in the Senate chamber on Capital Hill.

Long was elected by acclamation to serve as the speaker for the 18th CNMI Youth Congress as there were no other nominees during the session. It was Youth senator Liekeila'akata Tapua'ialupe Iakopo of Kagman High School who nominated Long as speaker.

House of the Representatives Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), who served as speaker pro tem of the CNMI Youth Congress during the session, declared Long as the speaker.

Iakopo was elected vice speaker, YuriHana Deleon Guerrero Sasamoto of Mount Carmel High School is floor leader, and Abriette Patience T. Manglona of Dr. Rita H. Inos Jr.-Sr. High School is

legislative secretary.

The other Youth Congress senator is Easton Joel Cabrera Dela Cruz of Marianas High School.

Long said she will name the committee chairpersons at a later date.

CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro administered the oath of office for the Youth senators.

Long, 16, said in her speech that her focus will be on environmental awareness. In an interview with the media after the ceremony, Long said what people can expect from her is a lot of involvement in the community and that she will do her best to reach out to many organizations.

Long said this is actually her second term running for the Youth Congress, so a big part of why she decided to join again was because they have a lot of unfinished business to take care of. "A lot of our bills got introduced, but were not fully passed. So this term, I'm looking forward to reintroducing those bills and hopefully passing those once again, and to make some real change," she said.

Iakopo, 15, said she will



Members of the 18th CNMI Youth Congress have their picture taken at the conclusion of their organizational session last Saturday morning on Capital Hill. From left are youth senators YuriHana Deleon Guerrero Sasamoto, Abriette Patience Taimanao Manglona, Easton Joel Cabrera Dela Cruz, Cielo Citlalli Gutierrez Long, and Liekeila'akata Tapua'ialupe Iakopo.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

stand as an advocate for her school and emphasize the importance of prioritizing the needs of the youth.

Sasamoto, 15, vowed to work for and with the CNMI's youth and to do everything in her power along with her fellow senators to improve the lives of the youth in the CNMI. "Together we can strive for and accomplish betterment of the youth. Together we can make real change," she said.

Dela Cruz, 16, said the needs of the youth are fluid and ever changing, espe-

cially with the "new normal" because of COVID-19. "As our community continues to transition, I will ensure that our voices are heard, that I bring attention to issues we are passionate about, bring attention to innovative solutions the youth come up with, and bridge the gap between the generations in our community," Dela Cruz said.

Manglona, 15, said she is eager to dedicate herself as well as her fellow Youth Congress senators to the issues that the islands are faced with. She said it is her mission to

listen to learn and to understand all the factors affecting the youth of the CNMI.

CNMI Youth Congress secretary/coordinator Luis John DLG Castro earlier disclosed that over a thousand students participated in the biennial Youth Congress election, which were held last April 7, 8, and 15. Of 2,134 registered student voters, over 73% cast their ballots.

Castro, a member of the 21st CNMI House of the Representatives, served as speaker of the 4th CNMI Youth Congress.

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\*Early Head Start is currently only offered on Saipan.

## QUARANTINE

From Page 1

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. and the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force announced Friday this change in its quarantine protocols, provided that the individual provides verifiable vaccination documentation from their health department or health provider and after passing their house passes an inspection (CHCC has to first inspect their house to check if there is space for someone to safely self-quarantine).

Areas that the CDC has designated as having a Level 1 status means there is a low level of risk. Among some of the countries on the Level 1 tier are American Samoa, Australia, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, New Zealand, Palau, and Taiwan. The CNMI itself is at Level 1.

In a separate news briefing with CHCC CEO Esther Muña last Friday, she said individuals are considered "fully vaccinated" two weeks after their second dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine or first dose of the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccine.

If a household assessment failed, CHCC said travelers will be given the option to self-monitor at home. Also, travelers from Level 1 jurisdictions also do not have to test upon arrival but will be tested on their fifth day after arrival.

As for those who are fully vaccinated from other jurisdictions that aren't a Level 1 jurisdiction, they can still apply for home quarantine after being verified for completing their COVID-19 vaccination and passing a lodging or household assessment.

Should their household assessment fail, these individuals will be required to quarantine at a government quarantine facility. Those from a Level 2 or higher jurisdiction will continue to be tested on arrival and on their fifth day. CHCC said that if any individual tests positive during any test, they will be isolated at a government quarantine facility.

Those who are vaccinated in the CNMI and applied for the modified quarantine will have their applications processed faster since CHCC can verify the vaccination status quickly.

Travelers applying for any modified quarantine may receive an application decision after they arrive and may be required to quarantine at the designated government facility while they wait for approval.

CHCC and the task force recommend that individuals should apply at least 72 hours prior to arrival into the CNMI, since applications are processed in the order of receipt and validation.

Muña said that vaccination documents should be uploaded when filling out the modified quarantine application. She also clarified that documents should also be brought with them for the CHCC team to review.

Travelers who are requesting Critical or Essential Work approval will be evaluated based on the strength of work justification, point of origin, pre-arrival polymerase chain reaction test, COVID-19 vaccinations, and transit/flight plans.

According to CDC, there are more evidence that the risk of infection from COVID-19 is minimal for fully vaccinated individuals and has issued a guidance relating to masks and fully vaccinated individuals.

However, since vaccinations are not easily verifiable, and the CNMI has yet to achieve herd immunity, CHCC and the task force reminds the public that masks in public places are still necessary and urge more residents to get vaccinated. More vaccination locations are open, with registration available on-site and at no cost to anyone.

As of May 15, 2021, 57% of the eligible population of the CNMI is fully vaccinated.

### Individuals won't have to wait 2 weeks

Additional guidance from CDC says you won't have to wait two weeks to receive the vaccine. Muña said one of the questions that they ask an individual before getting inoculated with the vaccine is if they have been vaccinated within the last two weeks. Muña said CDC has removed this barrier and other vaccines may now be administered without regard to timing. This includes simultaneous administration of COVID-19 vaccines and other vaccines on the same

day, as well as co-administration within 14 days.

Muña said the reason why you had to wait two weeks is because reports show that it takes about two weeks for the vaccine to fully take effect. "According to CDC, after two weeks, your body will acquire enough immunity to defend against a symptomatic case of COVID-19," said Muña.

### Parents to receive letters from CHCC

According to Muña, CHCC will be issuing out letters of consent to parents who have children from age 12 to 18. The COVID-19 vaccinations will be available at the Medical Care and Treatment site at the upper CHCC parking lot, while discussions continue with school officials.

"We will be going to the schools and we will be issuing out letters to the parents for them to sign the consent form. So that anyone that could be vaccinated will be vaccinated," said Muña. She is hopeful that CHCC and the task force will have a successful rollout at campuses before the school year ends.

"Twelve- to 15-year-olds usually don't really think about the primary care, so trying to think about their health [and] trying to get their attention now is the best time to do it. It's perfect timing...right before school ends. We're happy that this was released right before that," said Muña.

### 3 more test positive

Three non-vaccinated travelers have tested positive for COVID-19 over the weekend, raising the CNMI's cumulative total to 173.

Two individuals were confirmed positive for COVID-19 from on-arrival testing last Friday. Both were confirmed to not have been vaccinated; this brought the CNMI's total COVID-19 count to 172.

Another individual was confirmed positive for COVID-19 from on-arrival testing yesterday and was confirmed to not have been vaccinated. This then brought up the total cases to 173.

All individual has been moved to the designated isolation area for monitoring. The CHCC Communi-

rectly to the CNMI government, which is then responsible for conveying the money to CHCC.

"Congratulations to CHCC, which to date has received \$3,612,310.27 under the pandemic major disaster declaration," the delegate said. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

an executive order from the President to honor some of the nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. In 1979 the program was expanded to recognize exceptional students in the visual, creative, and performing arts and further expanded in 2015 to recognize exceptional students in the career and technical education fields. The selection process begins with the millions of high school graduates who are eligible to apply across the United States to around 4,500 Presidential Scholar candidates, to around 800 Presidential Scholar semifinalists, to the final 161 Presidential Scholars.

cable Disease Investigation/Inspection team has initiated contact tracing for contacts with the highest risk of exposure.

"Based on what we know about vaccines for other diseases and ear-

## PASSION

From Page 1

March, Robert Malate (Class of 2021) left Cambridge and traveled nearly 8,000 miles to his home on Saipan in the Northern Mariana Islands.

"That was one of the toughest things I had to do. The time zone difference was 14 hours, and all of my classes were still ongoing," he said. "I remember waking up at 3 o'clock in the morning to go to class. Having the discipline to push through and finish that semester was a huge adjustment for me."

It was also a huge accomplishment that reinforced a lesson he learned time and again over the course of his four years at Harvard: passion and perseverance really do pay off.

Valedictorian of his high school class, Malate knew he wanted to pursue engineering and that he'd have to leave the island to do it. He figured if he had to go abroad for college, why not apply to the top Ivy League school?

It was a thrill to be admitted, but also a challenge to adjust to life so far from home. The population of the entire tropical island of Saipan (only 12 miles long and 5 miles wide) is about 55,000, while metro Boston, with its cold and snowy winters, is home to nearly 5 million people.

Malate, who chose to concentrate in mechanical engineering at the John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, found that building a tight-knit network of friends was a cure for homesickness. He developed strong relationships with peers in the Harvard Undergraduate Robotics Club and Harvard Undergraduate Aeronautics, where the aerospace-minded Malate had the opportunity to build an aircraft for the first time.

"It is cool to do all these equations and get a final derivation, but honestly it is kind of meaningless if it doesn't translate to something," he said. "So once I saw the aircraft actually working, I was amazed. I really enjoyed seeing how all the theoretical work translates into the real world. That taught me a whole new set of skills."

Looking for an enriching experience outside of engineering, Malate decided to join the Harvard Breakers, the University's break dancing club. He'd never danced before, but had seen peers break dancing and was curious about what was involved.

A lot of practice, it turns out.

"It took me a year just to learn one move, but it was worth the effort," he said. "It was very different for me. In engineering, if you have a problem, you could just work on it the night before. But when you are trying to learn something like break dancing, you have to work on it every day. Learning what it takes to master a certain move has been really rewarding for me."

The perseverance he developed as a break dancer has come in handy throughout his academic career, es-

pecially when he decided to dive into a brand new challenge—learning Mandarin Chinese.

To Malate, studying Chinese was much harder than even the toughest engineering problem.

"It is a really slow process for the benefits of all those language lessons to take effect," he said. "But I really got to learn how to think a different way and communicate with people more clearly."

He had a chance to put those language skills to good use during a summer spent teaching at a STEM camp in Suzhou, China. During the program, Malate taught 3D printing and computer programming to middle schoolers, and though the program was taught in English, there were many times when he had to dip into his linguistic knowledge to get a point across.

"It forced me to learn the material much better. Figuring out how to explain the material to students who were 11 years old was a new challenge. I couldn't just throw in random jargon, since English wasn't their main language," he said. "So I had to figure out how I could explain these concepts in ways they could understand."

He surprised himself by how much he enjoyed teaching. It was rewarding to see others light up when they grasped concepts or shared his excitement about topics, he said. So he began serving as a teaching fellow for "Mechanical Systems" (ES 125) and "Computational Solid and Structural Mechanics" (ES 128).

The patience he honed as a teacher has been especially useful in a research environment.

Fascinated by the Robobee project, Malate joined the Harvard Microrobotics Lab of Rob Wood, Charles River Professor of Engineering and Applied Sciences, during his junior year. Though he was working remotely due to the pandemic, he helped design a computer model to simulate the bending of the diminutive robot's wings during flight.

It was a unique application of his interest in aeronautics, and helped inspire his senior thesis project. Malate is adding a buoyancy control unit to a robotic mermaid so it can dive deeper and better perform underwater tasks, like deep sea exploration.

After graduation, he plans to work internationally and focus on robotics companies that are developing tools that can improve people's lives.

Looking back, despite the culture shock he felt at the outset of his college career, and the disruption of having to return to Saipan midway through his studies, Malate found a perfect fit at SEAS.

"Harvard engineering really is unique. Having the liberal arts environment enabled me to learn about so many other fields, and interact with people who are experts in those fields," he said. "Harvard has so many people from vastly different backgrounds who can tell you many different stories."

## CHCC

From Page 1

fiscal year 2021 Airport Improvement Program funds for infrastructure and safety projects. *See story on Page 6*

## MCS

From Page 1

sent by the U.S. DoE press office to Santos on May 13, saying this year's scholarship class "represent extraordinary achievements for our extraordinary times."

Santos and the 160 other awardees will be recognized for their academic achievements by President Joe Biden and U.S. Department of Education staff this summer.

Of the almost four million high school students expected to graduate this year, more than 6,500 students qualified as U.S. Presidential

The delegate said the Federal Emergency Management Agency informed his congressional office of funding that is intended to cover 100% of the money CHCC paid and will pay its staff from May 12, 2021, through Aug. 12, 2021, to administer the COVID-19 vaccines. He said FEMA obligates the funds di-

Scholarship candidates. From there, 625 candidates were selected as scholarship semifinalists, and from the candidates pool only 161 students received the very prestigious scholarship.

Additionally, Cardona shared that each scholar was offered an opportunity to name his or her most influential teacher, who will be honored with a personal letter from the Secretary of Education. Santos chose former MCS president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero for the recognition.

According to the U.S. Department of Education website, the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964 via

## Exemptions for certain H-2B employers in Guam, CNMI expanded

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is updating its policy guidance for certain H-2B employers in Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to explain that certain projects that are support-

ing or adversely affected by the military realignment, in addition to those that are associated with or directly connected to the military realignment, are exempt from the temporary need requirement.

The new guidance interprets

the expanded parameters under the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021. Under the FY 2021 NDAA, an H-2B employer who qualifies under the expanded parameters is not required to demonstrate that the service or labor is tem-

porary in nature if the employment start date is before Dec. 31, 2023. Priority will also be given to federally-funded military projects.

The FY 2021 NDAA, which took effect Jan. 1, amends previous language exempting certain H-2B employers in Guam and the CNMI from the require-

ment that the non-agricultural service or labor be temporary in nature. Petitioners must still comply with other H-2B requirements, including submission of an approved temporary labor certification issued by Guam's Department of Labor or the U.S. Department of Labor, as appropriate. Employers

in Guam and the CNMI remain exempt from the statutory H-2B cap until Dec. 31, 2029. Additional general information about the H-2B program can be found on the H-2B Temporary Non-Agricultural Workers page.

Additional information is available in the USCIS Policy Manual. (*USCIS*)

## Torres appoints consultant from Guam as CUC director

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres has nominated a consultant for the A.B. Won Pat International Airport Authority in

Guam to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board of directors.

Torres has informed Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) of his appointment of Frederick P.

Q. Tupaz to serve a four-year term as CUC board director.

The governor said Tupaz's knowledge and skill as a program manager, planner, and consultant for the A.B. Won Pat International Airport Au-

thority will bring "an invaluable skillset to CUC's board of directors."

The appointment requires the Senate's advice and consent.

Torres said that being a CUC director is a demanding job that requires skill, expe-

rience, and sound business judgment. "I am confident that Mr. Tupaz possesses those traits and will devote his best efforts in looking out for interests of CUC," the governor said.

At present, Miranda V. Manglona is the CUC board's

chairperson, while Weston Thomas Deleon Guerrero is its vice chairperson. The other members are Jovita Paulino as secretary, Matthew Holley as treasurer, and Aubrey Hocog as member representing the Commonwealth Development Authority.



### SPECIAL BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority hereby gives notice that a Special Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in MVA's Conference Room, Saipan, MP 96950.

#### MEETING AGENDA

- 1) **Preliminary Matters**
    - a. Call to Order
    - b. Roll Call
    - c. Adoption of Agenda
    - d. Adoption of Minutes
      - i. Regular Board Meeting – May 04, 2021
  - 2) **Public Comments**
  - 3) **Committee Reports**
    - a. Finance
      - i. Payment to Municipalities (Saipan, Tinian, Rota)
      - ii. Building Fund Reimbursement
      - iii. Familiarization Tour
      - iv. Available Funds for Payroll
      - v. Resolution to Amend Bank Signatories
    - b. Destination Enhancement
      - i. Tourist Sites
    - c. MVA Office Building
  - 4) **Old Business**
    - a. Marketing
      - i. MVA-RFP-19-2013: Global Branding and Marketing Strategy
      - ii. MVA-RFP-21-2023: Representation, Promotional and Public Relations Services for the Japan Market
      - iii. MVA-RFP-21-2024: Representation, Promotional and Public Relations Services for the Taiwan Market
      - iv. MVA-RFP-21-2030: The Marianas Global Branding Services
      - v. MVA-RFP-21-2031: Desk Audit
      - vi. MVA-RFP-21-2032: Hybrid Quarantine Facility
      - vii. MVA-RFP-21-2033: Airlines
      - viii. MVA-RFP-21-2034: Corridor Hotels
      - ix. MVA-RFP-21-2035: Acquisition of Debit Cards
  - 5) **Executive Session**
  - 6) **Miscellaneous/Announcements**
  - 7) **Adjournment**
- /s/ Viola Alepuyo  
Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

### BOARD OF PAROLE

P.O. Box 502641, SAIPAN, MP 96950-2641  
TEL. NOS.: (670) 664-3300 - 3302 | FAX: (670) 664-3310  
Email: govbop@pticom.com



### TO ALL MEDIA SERVICES PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

**MESSAGE:** The Honorable Ralph Dlg. Torres, Governor and the Honorable Arnold I. Palacios, Lt. Governor, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992", hereby give Official Notice that a Preliminary Hearing is scheduled for May 19, 2021 (Wednesday), beginning at 9:00 a.m., at the Honorable Vicente T. Seman Building Department of Corrections Facility, located at Susupe, Saipan MP 96950. The following individual(s) will appear before the Hearing Examiner.

**I. Parolee**  
**1. ALFONSO N. RAMON** Cr. Cs. No.: 12-0143 B.O.P. No.: 18-003

If you have any question or need additional information, please contact the Board of Parole Office at telephone numbers 664-3300.

/s/ Ramon B. Camacho  
BOP Chairman

May 13, 2021  
Date

### RMIC CONSTRUCTION COMPANY



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Susupe Office



### Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD

P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court  
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814  
Email: cnmi@cnmibpl-hcplb.net  
Website: cnmibpl-hcplb.net



Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on Wednesday, **May 19, 2021 at 8am** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Administration Building, Governor's Conference Room on Capitol Hill.

#### AGENDA

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (04/07/2021)
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairperson's Report
  - Three complaint letters from Mr. Hofschneider
- VII. Director's Report
  - Update on the three proposed regulations
- VIII. Investigator's Report
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
  - A. Governor's Office
  - B. Legislature
- X. Old Business
- XI. New Business
- XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review
  - A. New Application
    - Peter Geissler – Radiologic Technician
    - Yeji Hong – Medical Laboratory Technology (Foreign Applicant)
    - Yunchul Son – Medical Laboratory Technology (Foreign Applicant)
  - B. Renewal Applications
- XIII. Miscellaneous Business
- XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XV. Announcements
  - A. Next Meeting Date
  - B. Adjournment of Meeting



GUAM & COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

WEBEX MEETING MAY 20, 2021

## U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Honolulu Regional Office - Public Contact Team

Will host a Virtual Benefits Workshop for Veterans, Family Members, Surviving  
Spouses, and Community Providers

on

**THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021**

From

**4PM-6PM (GUAM & CNMI LOCAL TIME)**

To participate please join us in Cisco Webex by clicking or copying and pasting the below links into your browser:

**\*\*DOWNLOAD SLIDES at:** <https://www.benefits.va.gov/honolulu/>

<https://veteransaffairs.webex.com/veteransaffairs/j.php?MTID=m8ac465b2d5cb621946ddf3f6026f0fee>

You can join via Computer, Phone Audio (1-404-397-1596, 1991343725##), or Webex Mobile App. Meeting Password: 68k94U5ahM@



**Benefits Workshop Topics:**  
Compensation, Pension, Education & Training, DIC, Survivor Benefits, Loan Guaranty, Veteran Readiness & Employment, Burial and Plot Internment Allowance, Burial Flags, & Insurance

## FAA awards Saipan airport \$1.39M grant

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration has awarded a \$1.39-million grant to the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport as part of more than \$898.9 million Fiscal Year 2021 Airport Improvement Grants announced last Friday.

The CNMI will receive \$1,388,888 that will be used to fund infrastructure and safety projects. That makes the CNMI one of three U.S. territories awarded this funding; the others are the Luis Munoz Marin International Airport

in Puerto Rico and Fitiuta in American Samoa.

The \$898.9 million in total award includes \$113.5 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding to award all grants at a 100% federal share.

"Investing in our nation's infrastructure is how our country helped spark an aviation industry that now supports millions of jobs," said U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg. "These Airport Improvement Program grants will help modernize America's airports and ensure that our air transportation system remains the safest

and most efficient in the world."

Grant projects funded through the Airport Improvement Program promote safety, efficiency, environmental stewardship, infrastructure, and security at the nation's airports. Today's announcement includes 488 grants to 447 airports in 49 states and American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and Puerto Rico. Today also marks the 75th anniversary of the legislation that established federal investment in our nation's airport infrastructure.

"These grants represent the

legacy and vital role of airport infrastructure grant programs in helping the air transportation system operate safely," said FAA administrator Steve Dickson. "Investing in our nation's infrastructure through AIP grants is a cornerstone of our commitment to safety."

The Airport Improvement Program receives approximately \$3.2 billion in congressional funding each year. The FAA will award more than 1,500 grants this year. A complete listing of grants and an interactive map of airport recipients is maintained on the FAA website. (PR)

## Manglona wants CUC split into two

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) has pre-filed a bill that will replace the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. with two independent autonomous public corporations that will separately manage and control the power service and water systems.

However, Manglona's Senate Bill 22-45 will create only one elected consolidated board for the two public corporations.

The senator stated in the legislation that CUC has grown tremendously over the past two decades, both in terms of customer base and the number of employees.

Since its inception, CUC has managed and controlled the power, water, and waste water systems in the CNMI, guided by an appointed board of directors and managed by an executive director. However,

er, now is the time to consider reorganizing CUC, Manglona said, by separating the power and water systems so that the power service is separately managed and controlled from the water service and the wastewater system. He said it is in the public's interest to create an elected board to exercise authority over the two separate public corporations.

Manglona said the current procedure of having an appointed CUC board removes the voice of the people and takes away their ability to directly impact the management and control of the utility services provided to the people in the CNMI.

He said the purpose of the bill is to repeal the entire statute pertaining to CUC and put in place two independent public corporations.

The senator said the bill establishes an elected board to oversee both the power service and the water service, which includes the wastewater system.

### » Bill will create 1 elected consolidated utilities board for 2 corporations



**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514  
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

(This is ad is paid for NMHC with HUD funds)

### NMHC RFP 2021-009

**BID SUBMISSION DATE & TIME:** June 1, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

#### Consulting Services for the Preparation of Environmental Review Records

The Request for Proposals and Scope of Services will be available on April 29, 2021 at the NMHC website at [www.nmhc.gov.net](http://www.nmhc.gov.net) by clicking on the "Procurement Tab" or by visiting the CDBG-DR website at [www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com](http://www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com).

Inquiries regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing or email to Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer at [officemanager@nmhc.gov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhc.gov.net) or submitted by facsimile to (670)234-9021 no later than 4:00 PM local time on May 14, 2021.

The provisions of the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/9447 or email at [officemanager@nmhc.gov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhc.gov.net) during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios  
Corporate Director  
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)

/s/ Marcie M. Tomokane  
Chairwoman  
NMHC Board of Directors



## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

# MVA IS HIRING!!!!!!!

Opening Date: 05/17/2021    Closing Date: 05/31/2021

JVA#21-001: Marketing Specialist II  
JVA#21-002: Graphic Artist  
Location: Marianas Visitors Authority, Saipan

Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority Office at (670) 664-3200/01 or visit [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com) for more details.



## A NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS SOCIAL SERVICE


## JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

### (1) EMERGENCY FOOD PROGRAM ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

For more information, job description and application can be obtained from Karidat main office at Sister Remedios Community Center, Chalan Kanoa.

**DOCUMENTS REQUIRED:** Complete application form, copy of diploma/degree, resume/bio-data; current police clearance within 6 months and a copy of valid CNMI driver's license.

**NO PHONE INQUIRIES PLEASE.**  
**CLOSING DATE: FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021 AT 4:00 PM**



## DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES

CNMI GOVERNMENT

### INVITATION TO BID

## ITB NO.: ITB21-GOV-086

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 01, 2021    TIME: 10:00 A.M.

### “PURCHASE OF ONE (1) CLASS “I” FIVE (5) DOOR 4X4 UTILITY VEHICLE FOR THE GOVERNOR'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES, LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, BUILDING NO. 1301, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

**\*FOR YOUR SAFETY & OURS: ALL INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS ARE REQUIRED TO USE A FACE MASK & ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER UPON ENTRY\*\***

**THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.**

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ VIRGINIA C. VILLAGOMEZ  
GOVERNOR'S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON  
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S



## NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION (NMHC)

# JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPENING DATE: May 06, 2021    CLOSING DATE: May 24, 2021    TIME: 4:00 P.M.

NMHC JVA NO.	Positions:	Salary:
2021-022	2-Staff Engineer Civil/Structural	\$70,000-\$100,000.00 per annum - Ungraded

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be accessed at [www.nmhcgov.net](http://www.nmhcgov.net).

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; or at the Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; or email application and documents to [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net).

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net). NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/  
**JESSE S. PALACIOS**  
Corporate Director



## NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION (NMHC)

# JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPENING DATE: May 17, 2021    CLOSING DATE: June 2, 2021    TIME: 4:00 P.M.

NMHC JVA NO.	Positions:	Salary:
2021-023	Board Secretary	\$25,000.00-\$30,000.00 per annum - Ungraded

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be accessed at [www.nmhcgov.net](http://www.nmhcgov.net).

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; or at the Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; or email application and documents to [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net).

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/s/  
**JESSE S. PALACIOS**  
Corporate Director



## NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION (NMHC)

# JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(RE-ANNOUNCEMENT)

OPENING DATE: May 04, 2021    CLOSING DATE: June 03, 2021    TIME: 4:00 P.M.

NMHC JVA NO.	Positions:	Salary:
2021-021	Chief Financial Officer (CFO)	\$60,000.00 to \$70,000.00 per annum (UNGRADED)

Employment application form, detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be accessed at the NMHC website at [www.nmhcgov.net](http://www.nmhcgov.net).

Applicants may submit their applications through the following options: Submission at the at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan; Drop Box located in front of the NMHC Central Office building; or email application and documents to [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net).

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For inquiries, please contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-6866/9447 or by email to [officemanager@nmhcgov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhcgov.net). NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/  
**JESSE S. PALACIOS**  
Corporate Director

# Repatriation flights to FSM



Passengers board an Air Station Barbers Point HC-130 Hercules in Guam to fly to the Federated States of Micronesia, May 13, 2021. The humanitarian flights were the first to allow passengers to deplane in the Federated States of Micronesia since the country closed its borders in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

U.S. COAST GUARD/U.S. EMBASSY KOLONIA

**SANTA RITA, Guam**—An Air Station Barbers Point HC-130 Hercules aircrew conducted two flights repatriating Federated States of Micronesia citizens and delivering U.S. and foreign diplomats to Pohnpei International Airport last Thursday and Friday. The flights were the first permitted by FSM to allow passengers to deplane since the country closed its borders in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. On the flights were 43 FSM

citizens who returned home after spending more than a year away. The operation began after U.S. Embassy Kolonia staff received an official request from the FSM government seeking assistance repatriating its citizens who had been stranded outside the country due to the pandemic. Embassy staff worked with Coast Guard Sector Guam personnel to coordinate the operation and the Hercules aircrew deployed from Hawaii to

conduct the two flights. Throughout the operation, Coast Guard personnel, U.S. Embassy Kolonia staff, and representatives from the FSMa government worked closely to ensure all COVID-19 safety protocols were followed. All passengers had been in pre-travel quarantine since May 6, are fully vaccinated, and have negative COVID-19 test results. The passengers are undergoing an additional seven-day quarantine in the country. *(USCG)*



Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514  
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>  
Tels: (670) 234-9447, 234-6866, 234-7670



## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Section 5 A. of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (“NMHC”) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (“CDBG-DR”) Program’s Action Plan (“AP”), this is to notify the general public about these proposed substantial and non-substantial amendments to the CDBG-DR AP and afford citizen participation and the opportunity to comment on these proposed amendments. The general public has thirty (30) days from publication date of this Public Notice to submit comments on these proposed changes to the CDBG-DR AP.

Substantial amendments are required when there is a change in program benefit/eligibility criteria, addition/deletion of an activity, or reallocation of substantial amounts. A substantial amendment will also be required if any program changes exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000). Substantial amendments must provide a reasonable opportunity (at least 30 days) for citizen comment. All changes must be documented by NMHC’s CDBG-DR Program to provide both necessary and reasonable justifications. All substantial amendments will include the following:

1. The exact identification of which content is being added, deleted, or changed;
2. A clear description of where funds are moved from/to; and
3. The updated and revised budget after re-allocation of funding.

Conversely, non-substantial amendments to the Action Plan are not subject to citizen participation but NMHC decided to include a non-substantial amendment to the said Plan in this Public Notice for informational purposes only.

Furthermore, all action plan amendments will be available via the CNMI CDBG-DR website at [www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com](http://www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com) and hardcopies may be obtained at any of the NMHC central and CDBG-DR offices located on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota by those who do not have access to the Internet. Notifying the public is of paramount importance as these funds are largely dependent on public participation and the remaining unmet need to be assessed. NMHC will utilize the following avenues/outlets to notify the public of the CDBG-DR Program:

- Notices in the local newspaper
- Radio announcements
- Social media
- CNMI CDBG-DR website

Last, NMHC will take reasonable steps to ensure very low-, low-, and moderate-income persons, including persons with disabilities, the elderly and persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) have meaningful access and an equal opportunity to participate in this important CDBG-DR activity and in accordance to prescribed policies and procedures embedded in the CDBG-DR Program’s Citizen Participation Plan. The aforesaid and complete Citizen Participation Plan may be accessed at the CNMI CDBG-DR website: [www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com](http://www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com) or found on Section 5 on the CDBG-DR Action Plan (pages 78 - 83). A copy of the Action Plan, as amended by these proposed changes, may be accessed at the CNMI CDBG-DR website at: [www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com](http://www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com) or obtained at any of the NMHC offices on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

**“NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency”**

Tinian Field Office  
Tel: (670) 433-9213 • Fax: (670) 433-3690

CDBG-DR Office  
Tel: (670) 233-9447/9448/9449

Rota Field Office  
Tel: (670) 532-9410 • Fax: (670) 532-9441



Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514  
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>  
Tels: (670) 234-9447, 234-6866, 234-7670



## ARONGORONGOL TOULAP

Sáangi Táilil 5 A. reel Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (“NMHC”) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (“CDBG-DR”) “Program’s Action Plan (“AP”), bwulul mille nge ebwe arongaar toulap reel pommwol liiwel ikka e lo bwe “substantial” me “non-substantial” ngáli CBDG-DR me ayoorai ngáli aramas ikka re tuútá me ebwe mmwel rebwe isiisilong kkapas wóol pommwol liiwel kkal. Rebwe ngaleer toulap eliigh ráál sáangi ráálil igha e akkatéwowa Arongorongol Toulap yeel ebwe isiisilong kkapas wóol pommwol liiwel kkal ngáli CBDG-DR AP. Liiwel ikka e lo bwe “substantial” ebwe yoor ngáre eyoor liiwel loll progróoma reel “benefit/eligibility criteria”, aschuulongol me siiwel sáangi mwóghutughut, ngáre “reallocation of substantial amounts”. Ebwe bwal yoor “substantial amendment” ngáre eyoor progróoma iye e ayoorai siiwel iye e aluulói “five million dollars” (\$5,000,000). “Substantial amendments” ebwe ayoora “reasonable opportunity” loll eliigh ráál ngáliir aar toulap fóós. Ebwe yoor ammwelil alongal liiwel sáangi NMHC aar CBDG-DR Program me ebwe yoor “necessary and reasonable justifications”. Alongal “substantial amendments” ebwe bwal aschuulong milikka e amwirimwiritiw”

1. Ebwe ffat ifa me óutol iye ebwe aschuulong, siiwel, ngáre liiweli;
2. Ebwe ffat e mweteló iya fundo ngáre e tooto me iya; me
3. “Updated and revised budget” mwiril “re-allocation of funding”.

Siiweli mwáliili we e ghoomw, “non-substantial amendments” ngáli “Action Plan” ese ffil bwe toulap rebwe tuutá nge ngáre NMHC e disidiy bwe rebwe aschuulong “non-substantial amendments” ngáli Plóno iye re apasa llól Arongorongol Toulap bwulul arongorong schagh.

E bwal schuulong, alongal liiwelil “action plan” eyoor me CNMI CDBG-DR website me [www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com](http://www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com) me emmwel ubwe bweibwogh pappid reel bwulasiyo kkemwu e lo Seipél, Tchiliyól, me Luuta reel schóo kkemwu esóor yaar “access” ngáli “Internet”. E ówtcheya rebwe arongaar toulap reel fundo ikka e lo ngáliir toulap rebwe tuutá llól ammwelil me lemelemil reel ikka e bwal lo bwe “unmet need”. NMHC rebwe aghatchú le aronga toulap reel Progróomal CBDG-DR sáangi mwóghutughut ikka e amwirimwiritiw:

- Arongorong me llól simbwing
- Arongorong sáangi reedio
- Social media
- CNMI CDBG-DR website

Ottimwo, NMHC ebwe ayoorai afal ngáli igha rebwe ayoorai sóssól-, sóssól-, me e “moderate-income persons”, e schuulong aramas ikka eyoor aar “disabilities”, tuufey me aramas ikka re lo bwe “Limited English Proficiency (LEP) rebwe bwal tuutá me yááyá llól mwóghutughutúl CBDG-DR me llól lemelemil “policies” me mwóghutughut llól “CDBG-DR Program’s Citizen Participation Plan”. Emmwel ubwe schuungi mille re ghommwal óóleghi me óutol “Citizen Participation Plan” reel aar CNMI CDBG-DR website me: [www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com](http://www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com) ngáre bwal wóol Táilil 5 wóol CBDG-DR Action Plan (peigh 78 – 83). Pappidil “Action Plan”, igha re liiweli sáangi pommwol liiwel, emmwelil ubwe bweibwogh me CNMI-CDBG-DR website me: [www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com](http://www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com) ngáre inamwo ifa reel bwulasiyol NMHC ikka e lo Seipél, Tchiliyól, me Luuta.

**“NMHC is an equal employment and fair housing public agency”**

Tinian Field Office  
Tel: (670) 433-9213 • Fax: (670) 433-3690

CDBG-DR Office  
Tel: (670) 233-9447/9448/9449

Rota Field Office  
Tel: (670) 532-9410 • Fax: (670) 532-9441



Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514  
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>  
Tels: (670) 234-9447, 234-6866, 234-7670



## NUTISIAN PUBLIKU

Sigun para i Seksiona 5 A. gi “Northern Marianas Housing Corporation” (“NMHC”) i “Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (“CDBG-DR”)” na Prugráman “Action Plan” (“AP”), para u manafanungu’ i henerát publiku put esti i manmaproponi na “substantial” yan “non-substantial” na amenda siha gi CBDG-DR AP yan para u maná’i i publiku tiempu para u fampattisipáo yan i uputunidát para u famanoppi’ gi esti i manmaproponi na amenda siha. I henerát publiku debi na u ma’intrega hálum i upiñon-niña gi halum trenta (30) dihas ginen i fetchan publikasion nu esti na Nutisia put esti i tinilaika ni manmaproponi siha gi CBDG-DR AP. I “substantial” na amenda siha manaprisisu yanggin guaha tinilaika gi halum i prugráman benifisiu/“criteria” i kuálifikáo, “addition/deletion” nu i aktibidát, o sino “reallocation i “substantial amount”. I “substantial” na amenda siempri lókkui’ prumisisu yanggin kuatkuet na tinilaika siha gi prugráma umupus i singku miyon pesos (\$5,000,000). I “substantial” na amenda debi na u pribeni rasonáppli na uputunidát (maseha 30 dihas) para upiñon publiku. Todu i tinilaika siha debi na u madukumentu ni Prugráman NMHC’s CBDG-DR para u pribeni todú i dos nisisáriu yan rasonáppli na “justification”. Todu i “substantial” na amenda siha siempri ingklusu i mantinattiyi:

1. I eksakto na aidentifikasion nu mánu na sinahguan maná’yi, mafunas, pat matulaika;
2. Kláru na diskripsion nu ginen mánu/para mánu i fundu; yan
3. I más nuebu yan maribisa na “budget” despues di i “re-allocation” nu i saláppi’.

Gi inátlabis, i “non-substantial” na amenda siha para i “Action Plan” ti manmasuhetu para páttisipasion siudadanu láo i NMHC madisidi para u ingklusu i “non-substantial” na amenda para i mamensiona na Plánu gi halum esti na Nutisia para infotmasion ha’ na rason siha.

Yan más, todú i “action plan” na amenda siha siempri managuaha gi website i CNMI CDBG-DR gi [www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com](http://www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com) yan siña machuli’ kopia gi ufisinan i NMHC yan i CBDG-DR siha ni gaigi iya Saipan, Tinian, yan Luta para etyi siha i ti siña ma’akes i “Internet”. I ninatutungu’ i publiku mampus impottánti sa’ esti na fundu dinipendi meggai gi páttisipasion publiku yan i tetenan ni ti matakka’ nisisita para u ma’ebalua. I NMHC siempri ma’usa i mantinattiyi na “avenues/outlets” para u manafanungu’ i publiku put i Prugráman CBDG-DR:

- Nutisia gi halum gaseta
- Anunsiu Rediu
- Social media
- CNMI CDBG-DR website

Uttimu, i NMHC siempri ha chuli’ rasonáppli na manera para u na’siguru na i “very low-, low-,” yan “moderate-income” na petsona siha, kuntuodu i táotáo ni gai disibidát, i gai inamku’ yan i táotáo ni “Limited English Proficiency (LEP)” na managuaha akses para u más makumprendi i prugráma yan parehu na uputunidát para u fampattisipáo gi halum esti impottánti na aktibidát i CBDG-DR ni kumunfotma yan i manmakátátga na “policies” yan “procedures” ni gaigi gi halum i Prugráman CBDG-DR Citizen Participation Plan.” I manmamensiona yan kumplidu na “Citizen Participation Plan” siña ma’akes gi website i CNMI CDBG-DR gi: [www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com](http://www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com) o sino siña masodda’ gi Seksiona 5 gi CBDG-DR “Action Plan” (páhina 78 – 83). I kopian i “Action Plan”, komu ma’amenda ginen esti na tinilaika na priniponi siha, siña ma’akes gi website i CNMI CDBG-DR gi: [www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com](http://www.cnmi-cdbg-dr.com) o sino siña machuli’ kopia gi maseha mánu na ufisinan i NMHC iya Saipan, Tinian, yan Luta.

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# Opinion

Hafa Adail

## Saipan Tribune

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### EDITORIAL

## Too many unfilled jobs? Lower employment barriers, not unemployment benefits

The phrases “we are closed” and “nobody wants to work anymore” were trending briefly Thursday as the Twitterverse grappled with the paradoxical news that job openings had set a record in March—more than 8 million positions unfilled—even as unemployment and underemployment remained far higher than they were before the pandemic. The news about openings came a few days after the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the number of new jobs filled in April was far lower than analysts were expecting.

Anecdotes abounded from employers who said they’ve struggled to find people willing to be hired. And as they’ve been doing for months, they blamed the extended unemployment benefits the federal government has been providing since March 2020. The extra money—\$300 a week, down from the initial \$600—came on top of an average weekly benefit of just under \$390 (although that figure varies widely by state), translating to an average wage of \$17 an hour. And unlike ordinary wages, those benefits may be tax-exempt, depending on the state and the taxpayer’s income.

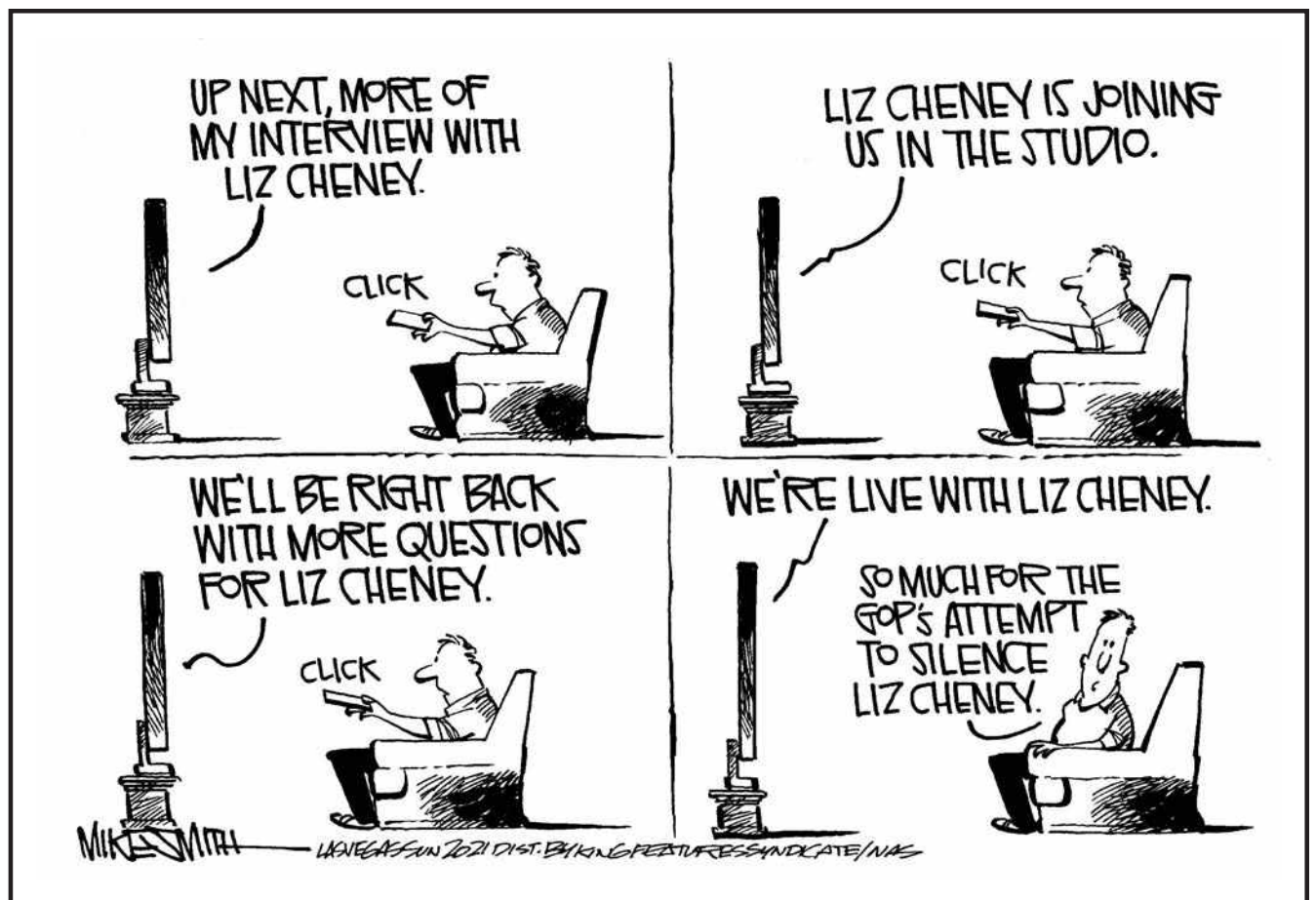
Republicans have largely opposed the extra benefits, arguing that they discourage people from working. A growing number of GOP-led states have told the feds to keep their money; they are reverting to pre-pandemic benefit levels in the belief that it will spur idled workers to get off the dole.

It might seem obvious that laid-off workers don’t have a lot of incentive to take a job that pays less than they are receiving in their unemployment checks. But the data from last year show that most people value a job so much, they will make that choice. And it’s not hard to understand why—a job will continue to provide income long after one’s eligibility for unemployment benefits runs out, not to mention the dignity and sense of purpose that good jobs provide. A Yale study of time-clock records largely in the food and beverage industry showed that the \$600 a week in extra benefits had a negligible effect on whether idled people returned to work.

Another point to consider: Many of the anecdotes about the inability to hire workers are coming from restaurant owners and others in the relatively low-paying service industry. Yet according to the left-leaning Economic Policy Institute, low-wage sectors as a whole showed “notably faster job growth” in April than other sectors. EPI argued that a bigger problem is the lingering pandemic effects on schools, child care providers and families, which are forcing many women to stay home to care for dependents.

We are far closer to normality today than we were a year or even three months ago, so it makes sense for states to restore pre-pandemic mandates that unemployed workers look for work or training and take a job if it matches their skills. But we still have a ways to go, with millions of Americans facing significant barriers to working. The extra benefits may keep some workers out longer, but for most people, they bring the ability to keep paying bills and their mortgage and continue supporting their local economies. The data show that people want to work. Don’t punish the ones who can’t.

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## Media need to answer this question: What do we know to be true about COVID safety, especially masks?

The more complicated a story gets, the more important it is for journalists to ask themselves what they know to be true about it, and focus on that. That’s not necessarily what an expert tells them is true, or what they think is true. But what they know to the best of their knowledge to be true.

There have been few stories as big and complicated in my lifetime as the pandemic, and we in the media are once again at a point in covering it where clarity and exactitude are needed perhaps more than ever. For the most part, though, we are not getting that from the media, especially on wearing masks and relaxed mandates.

There is a lot of talk on TV news programs about masks and when and where they need to be worn, and I think a lot of people are confused about it.

Sunday on the CBS show “Face the Nation,” Dr. Scott Gottlieb, former commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, said he thinks it is time to relax requirements on masks indoors.

“In the states where prevalence is low, vaccination rates are high, and we have good testing in place and we’re identifying infections, I think we could start lifting these restrictions indoors as well on a broad basis,” he said.

Sunday, Dr. Anthony Fauci told ABC News he thinks it is time to start scaling back on indoor mask requirements as well.

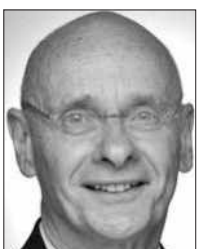
“I think so, and I think we’re going to probably be seeing that as we go along and as more people get vaccinated,” he said. “We do need to get more liberal as we get more people vaccinated.”

To the average viewer, that might sound like it is OK to ease up on wearing masks indoors, but while the CDC did relax its advice in April on wearing masks outdoors, it still recommends that even fully vaccinated people continue to wear masks in indoor public spaces.

Dr. Leana Wen, former Baltimore City health commissioner, said on CNN Monday that she thinks “it’s a bit soon for relaxing indoor mask mandates overall when there are people of unknown vaccination status.”

As she put it: “How do you know if someone else is vaccinated? So, if you are going to a store or a restaurant or some other setting especially in communities where there are high levels of community transmission, I think it is just too soon in those settings.”

An anecdote that CNN anchor Victor Blackwell shared Monday with viewers about a weekend trip he took to Baltimore, his hometown, is indicative of the confusion about masks.

By DAVID ZURAWIK  
The Baltimore Sun

David Zurawik is The Baltimore Sun’s media critic.

“I was in Baltimore over the weekend visiting my mom for Mother’s Day and I was outside without a mask on, and I got the stink eye from so many people,” he said, pointing out that he was doubly vaccinated and following guidelines.

The interview Blackwell and co-anchor Alisyn Camerota did with Dr. Wen was a good one. Acknowledging that “people are so confused,” Ms. Camerota pressed Dr. Wen for clarity, and the public health expert provided some.

But we need more of it. Like many, I admire Dr. Fauci. But it is not enough to have him on and not challenge him. Dr. Fauci has great expertise and outstanding communication skills, but he has become a kind of likeable TV character who gives good soundbites. That can be a comforting distraction rather than a help at this point in our struggle with COVID.

Yes, we should celebrate the vaccines and what they have accomplished. We should encourage people to get them, two things Dr. Fauci should rightfully be praised for doing in the media.

But before we start talking about “back to normal” as he did Sunday in his interview with ABC’s George Stephanopoulos, we should try to help viewers understand how profoundly the experience of the pandemic has changed us and the culture. Like so many other elements of American life, public health information has become politicized. Think Tucker Carlson telling his Fox News audience that wearing a mask is a sign of “shame and submission” or making children wear masks is “child abuse.”

It was further politicized when President Trump’s White House pressured the CDC to withhold information and alter recommendations for political reasons. Thankfully, that no longer appears to be happening. But the damage to public trust has been done.

Straight talk and hard facts are needed more than ever to combat the confusion, distrust and fear. Let’s focus on trying to find out what is true about how best to keep ourselves safe during this pandemic and then try to figure out the most effective way to share that with the public.

**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## The Marine Corps

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the Marine Corps became an entity that was forced to shift from its roots as a sea service organization to one focused on fighting tactical land wars, more in line with U.S. Army combat missions. This was due to the need to deploy Marine Corps operating forces into Iraq and Afghanistan.

Over the last 15 years, Marine Corps executive leaders have been soul searching, struggling to find a clearer pathway to re-purpose and reconstitute this American institution to remain relevant and useful to U.S. military needs for the future.

With the rise of China, the Marines have found their long-term purpose once again, which is to return in greater force back to the Pacific Ocean blue continent region where they cut their teeth during World War II and during Vietnam.

### What is the Marine Corps?

The Marines Corps is basically an American national governmental organization that has over 200,000 people working as reservists, active duty, and civilian employees. The cost to taxpayers to operate and keep the Marine Corps going each year exceeds \$45 billion.

The basic premise behind the existence of the Marine Corps is to have a maritime based infantry force supported by the Navy to help satisfy the American national need for short- or no-notice quick-response armed military forces to be delivered across the globe.

The Marine Corps is made up of distinct and overlapping organizations to include operating forces, supporting units, and a headquarters community based out of the Washington, D.C. area called Headquarters, United States Marine Corps, or HQMC. The organization is hierarchical, directive, and military order-centric due to the nature of the Marine Corps business model.

Marine Corps operational forces are geographically distributed, named, task-oriented and fungible. Marines also maintain functional-based communities designed and organized to fight today's high-tech and smaller unit wars. Some of the core functions practiced by category include personnel, intelligence, operations and training, logistics, plans, communications, civil affairs, and force preservation.

### Too close for comfort?

The massive military buildup of our Marianas Islands, which is immediately associated with the permanent relocation of select Marine Corps units from Okinawa, represents one piece of the much larger buildup pie. The Marines have long intended to maintain a fundamental enduring presence in our Marianas Islands chain, practicing supply chain logistical work, rotary and fixed-wing aircraft operations, and ground combat training operations across the tactical warfighting spectrum.

A larger portion of Marines expected to come to Guam will arrive from Hawaii and the continental United States serving on temporary unit deployed assignment status. The Marine Forces Special Operations Command personnel that come to Guam and the Northern Marianas will continue to train jointly with other special operations task force personnel that are organized and intended to be scalable to successfully complete a variety of mission sets that may be theater, joint special operations and/or allied-based.

Lingering questions persist, however, throughout the island chain over the Guam firing range complex and fire danger zones. It remains unclear precisely how much use this range complex

will see and what it means environmentally to the community.

It remains unclear precisely what kinds of weapons will be used at the range complex by all participating personnel, precisely what kinds of heavy metals and toxins by weight and by volume will be released into the total environment, the methods to be used to clean up and dispose of spent ammo, casings, and the associated dangers from range complex-initiated stormwater runoff—all taking place above Guam's sole source freshwater aquifer.

### The long game—crafted to be played as far away from the continental U.S. as is possible

Marine Corps executives have been in the process of recalibrating organizational componentry to adjust to relatively new maritime warfighting concepts. These actions have been undertaken in response to the ongoing Chinese military buildup and China's ability to project lethality beyond the First Island Chain eastward into the Western Pacific and Marianas Islands region.

### Translated, it is called 'Marine Littoral Regiments'

Marine Littoral Regiments, or MLRs, are the warfighting constructs now being tested in Hawaii. Our people may want to assume that an MLR will be assigned to Guam and one to Japan.

A Guam-based MLR may include up to 2,000 individuals performing supply chain, airspace, and combat mission roles to help satisfy tactical early warning, air defense, and ship sinking activities from long ranges. Marine Corps personnel in Guam will perform or continue to perform work in cyber warfare, signals intelligence, reconnaissance, and multi-level planning to augment the future role of the MLR.

The MLR will be additionally supported by what Marine Corps-types call Marine Expeditionary Unit, or MEU, personnel coming from the continental U.S.

## Back to the future on immigration

It's not 2007 again. But apparently no one has told George W. Bush.

To coincide with the release of a book of his paintings of immigrants, "Out of Many, One," the former Republican president wrote an op-ed in The Washington Post plugging the sort of immigration package that went down to defeat in both his administration and in the administration of his successor, Barack Obama.

Bush is an unusually sincere, earnest politician whose views on immigration are deeply felt and honestly come by—they are just anachronistic, or should be.

If there's any lesson that everyone should have learned from Donald Trump's takeover of the Republican Party, it's that the party's old consensus on immigration is no longer sustainable.

Yet there's still a reflex toward the lazy conventional wisdom that all that ails the country on immigration is lack of an agreement to give an amnesty to illegal immigrants already here and increase numbers of legal immigrants, in exchange for more bells and whistles at the border—what is commonly known as "comprehensive immigration reform."

Bush says not passing immigration reform is his biggest regret, and John Boehner, out with a score-settling memoir of his time as speaker of the House, says it is his second biggest regret (after not forging a big fiscal deal with President Obama).

Boehner spends a lot of time meditating on how the GOP became, in his telling, "Crazytown," a party of extremists and paranoiacs that eventually threw itself into the arms of Donald Trump.

The former speaker spreads the blame widely, but it evidently doesn't occur to him that one major factor driving a wedge between the party's establishment and its grassroots was the elected leadership's insistence on repeatedly trying to pass immigration bills that Republican voters rejected.

For his part, Bush sounds as if he's learned nothing. In his Post piece, he cites all the usual measures at the border included in these sort of bills—"manpower, physical barriers, advanced technology, streamlined and efficient ports of entry."

That's all fine, but it is no substitute for rigorous enforcement in the interior of the country and can't counteract the open-borders message sent by welcoming illegal immigrants.

In that regard, Bush professes, as all supporters of comprehensive immigration reform always do, to oppose amnesty as "fun-

### RICK'S COLUMN

By RICK PEREZ

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*Rick Perez used to serve in the U.S. military and has work experiences in public policy research and public affairs. He is passionate about national security and geopolitics and runs a newsletter called Guam Affairs at guamaffairs.substack.com. For questions or comments, contact Perez at rickp7839@gmail.com.*

### What does this portend for the future of our Marianas Islands?

What we should expect to see in the future is increasing use of rocket artillery intended to sink ships from greater distances at Pagan. We should expect to see Marine Corps ground combat personnel being broken down into smaller units, conducting dispersed training throughout the island chain.

We should expect to see Marine Corps personnel using drones for resupply tactics and intelligence gathering, as well as unmanned air-based weapons systems used to survey and fire against training targets throughout the archipelago; and we should expect to see more military transport vessels transiting throughout the Marianas carrying and connecting equipment and people to our insular shorelines. All this will be very destructive environmentally.

Lastly, our people may want to take careful stock and assume a renewed interest in the kinds of accidents that may take place from Marine Corps training operations throughout the archipelago. Young Marines will get injured and there is always the possibility of Marine Corps aviation assets running the risk of crashing into the ocean, reef, or surrounding land areas.

### By RICH LOWRY

King Features Synd., Inc.



*Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.*

damentally unfair to those who came legally or are still waiting their turn to become citizens."

He then calls for an amnesty couched as, in one of the laziest clichés in the immigration debate, bringing illegal immigrants "out of the shadows."

This will be achieved "through a gradual process in which legal residency and citizenship must be earned," by requiring "proof of work history, payment of a fine and back taxes, English proficiency and knowledge of U.S. history and civics, and a clean background check."

Such requirements are always promised in comprehensive immigration bills and are always toothless, serving only as a way to deny that the amnesty for illegal immigrants is indeed an amnesty.

Bush says, as well, that both parties should be willing to get behind "increased legal immigration," a characteristic feature of these bills. In another tired talking point, Bush insists that a higher level of immigration is necessary to bringing more skilled immigrants—never considering that we could also reduce the number of low-skilled immigrants.

But supporters of the old consensus aren't especially keen on understanding the arguments of opponents. Boehner refers to the "far-right crazies" who never forgave John McCain for pushing immigration reform, and blames "demagogues" and sheer "stubbornness" for blocking a comprehensive bill in 2014.

So far this year, Republican senators have only talked of a narrower immigration bill focused on an amnesty for so-called Dreamers. Surely, though, the instinct toward comprehensive immigration hasn't gone away. It's up to Republican voters to constantly remind the party's officeholders that 2007 is, indeed, a very long time ago.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR






## Chiget Beach: Open or not?

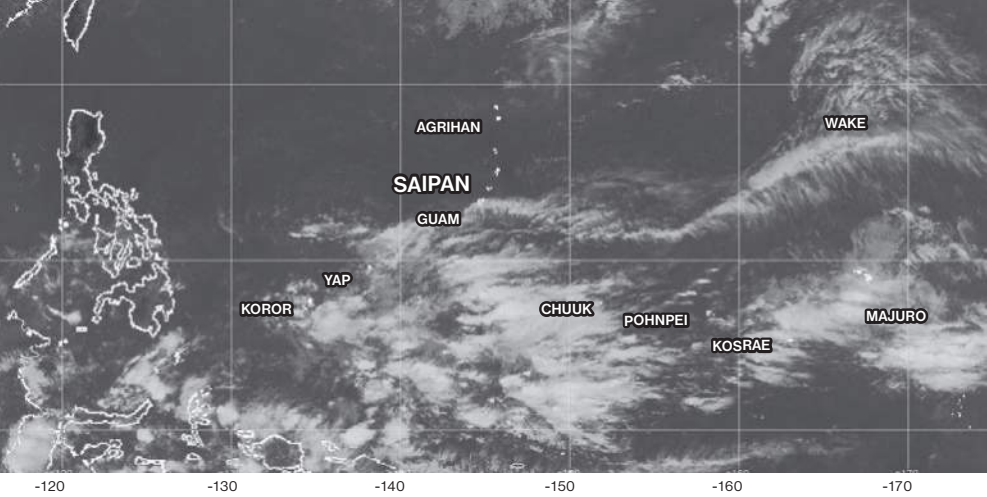
We have received two messages on the status of Chiget Beach. Is it open to the public or not?

Don Farrell

Marpo Heights, Tinian

# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
									
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms for Guam and Rota. Partly cloudy with isolated showers for Tinian and Saipan.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and a slight chance of thunderstorms for Guam and Rota. Partly cloudy with isolated showers for Tinian and Saipan.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	
87°	79°	86°	77°	86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 7:34 AM, SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The surface trough that brought considerable rainfall to Guam for much of Saturday and early this morning has moved off to the west. Skies are becoming partly cloudy with only isolated showers based on the latest infrared satellite imagery. Trade winds continue to be moderate to fresh, 10 to 20 mph. Buoys show seas of 5 to 7 feet across the region with highest seas east of the islands.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

## STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

**Continue good hand hygiene**

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

**Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic**

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
  - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
  - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at [www.chcc.gov.mp](http://www.chcc.gov.mp) or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit [www.governor.gov.mp](http://www.governor.gov.mp) and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at [www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19](http://www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19).

**Rumor control**

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86   79 °F	
Palau	Thunderstorms	85   78 °F	
Yap	Mostly cloudy	87   72 °F	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86   81 °F	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85   78 °F	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85   80 °F	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85   81 °F	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:47 AM	6:39 PM
Tuesday	5:47 AM	6:39 PM
Wednesday	5:47 AM	6:39 PM
Thursday	5:47 AM	6:39 PM
Friday	5:47 AM	6:39 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	9:52 AM	11:16 PM	-
Tuesday	10:46 AM	-	-
Wednesday	-	12:03 AM	11:41 AM
Thursday	-	12:48 AM	12:36 PM
Friday	-	1:31 AM	1:31 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Rain	64   52 °F	
Beijing	Thunderstorms	83   70 °F	
Hong Kong	Mostly cloudy	84   77 °F	
Honolulu	Sunny	83   72 °F	
London	Rain	66   51 °F	
Los Angeles	Partly cloudy	70   56 °F	
Manila	Sunny	92   79 °F	
Melbourne	Mostly cloudy	60   40 °F	
Miami	Partly cloudy	89   74 °F	
New York	Cloudy	55   49 °F	
Osaka	Partly cloudy	76   64 °F	
Paris	Rain	70   53 °F	
Pusan	Partly cloudy	82   54 °F	
Rome	Sunny	80   58 °F	
Salem	Rain	57   44 °F	
San Francisco	Sunny	60   51 °F	
Seoul	Sunny	77   52 °F	
Tokyo	Partly cloudy	81   64 °F	
Washington, DC	Rain	56   52 °F	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
12:18 AM	High Tide	1.86	
5:44 AM	Low Tide	1.43	
9:45 AM	High Tide	1.70	
5:28 PM	Low Tide	0.03	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 29, 2021				
DEPARTURES		ARRIVALS		
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)		GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN		
UA117	6:30am	7:10am	1, 4, 5, 6	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)		MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN		
UA117/183	6:30am	8:50pm	5 via Guam	
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)		MANILA (MNL)-GUAM		
UA183	7:05pm	8:50pm	5	
UA183	7:15pm	9:10pm	1, 3,	
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. <i>(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)</i>				

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 9, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sat
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sun

ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sat
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sun

ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable

1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

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## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



# JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 21 – 041

Opening Date: May 6, 2021 • Closing Date: May 19, 2021

<b>POSITION TITLE:</b>	Trades Assistant
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Tinian Water Division
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Tinian, Northern Marianas Islands, USA
<b>ANNUAL SALARY:</b>	\$16,742.00 to \$22,602.00 per annum, Non- Exempt
<b>CONTRACT:</b>	Not Contracted
<b>POSITION(S):</b>	One (1)

The incumbent will be under the overall supervision of the Tinian Resident Manager or his/her designee. This class specification represents only the core areas of responsibilities; specific position assignments will vary depending on the needs of Power Division.

#### Duties:

- Assists with installations, repairs and general maintenance in assigned service area; operates motorized vehicles, equipment machinery, and hand and power tools.
- Performs routine and preventative maintenance on equipment, vehicles, systems and/or infrastructure; performs basic inspections; and conducts basic troubleshooting of issues.
- Responds to trouble calls as needed.
- Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection and to direct traffic flow away from work site.
- Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used.
- Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete.
- Monitors equipment; takes readings and collects data; documents equipment readings; prepares and submits data and work reports.
- Performs inventory spot checks to ensure adequate materials and supplies are available for daily maintenance activities.
- Performs daily well and pump station facility maintenance, cleaning and monitoring;
- Assists plumbing and chlorine maintenance crew;
- Utilizing digging equipment for locating and repairing leaks;
- Repairing and securing pressure reducer valves, main vales, service lines and laterals, and booster pumps;
- Assisting with meter installation and repair;
- Collecting water samples.
- Must be able to lift objects weighing at 40 lbs. or more.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

#### Minimum Requirements:

**Education:** High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or ABE Program AS Diploma.

**Knowledge of:** Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology.

**Skills in:** Providing customer service; Reading maps and drawings; Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

#### Licensing/Certification:

- Valid Driver's License with appropriate class;

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

**How to Apply:** Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday 7:30 am – 4:30 pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: [employment.applications@cucgov.org](mailto:employment.applications@cucgov.org)

*An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.*



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation



# JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 21 – 042

Opening Date: May 6, 2021 • Closing Date: May 19, 2021

<b>POSITION TITLE:</b>	Trades Assistant
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Tinian Administration
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Tinian, Northern Marianas Islands, USA
<b>ANNUAL SALARY:</b>	\$16,742.00 to \$22,602.00 per annum, Non- Exempt
<b>CONTRACT:</b>	Not Contracted
<b>POSITION(S):</b>	One (1)

The incumbent will be under the overall supervision of the Tinian Resident Manager or his/her designee. This class specification represents only the core areas of responsibilities; specific position assignments will vary depending on the needs of Power Division.

#### Duties:

- The Trades Assistant assists with installations, repairs and general maintenance in assigned service area; operates motorized vehicles, equipment machinery, and hand and power tools.
- Performs routine and preventative maintenance on equipment, vehicles, systems and/or infrastructure; performs basic inspections; and conducts basic troubleshooting of issues.
- Responds to trouble calls as needed.
- Prepares job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and supplies, and setting work safety barriers for protection and to direct traffic flow away from work site.
- Gathers, cleans and returns equipment, materials and supplies used.
- Cleans and maintains work site after project or repair work is complete.
- Monitors equipment; takes readings and collects data; documents equipment readings; prepares and submits data and work reports.
- Performs fuel delivery and fuel transfer for power plant;
- Reports on daily & monthly fuel status and power generation data;
- Assists with meter readings & verifications and customer meter connections, disconnections and reconnections and testing;
- Assist with the customer meter inspections and power distribution as-builts, inspections & line staking;;
- Assists with power technical assistance- monitors and inspects contractor for power installations, assignments and projects.
- Responding to customer calls.
- Maintaining grounds, trimming trees and removing obstacles.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

#### Minimum Requirements:

**Education:** High School Diploma, General Education Diploma, or Adult Basic Education.

**Knowledge of:** Customer service principles; Basic mathematical concepts; Safety procedures and safe work practices; Modern office technology.

**Skills in:** Providing customer service; Reading maps and drawings; Operating heavy and light equipment machinery, hand and power tools required of assigned area; Adhering to safety procedures and safe work practices; Prioritizing tasks and managing time for efficiency; Identifying issues and solving problems; Providing attention to detail; Taking equipment readings and recording data; Maintaining activity logs and reports; Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

#### Licensing/Certification:

- Valid Driver's License with appropriate class;

All applicants may be tested and all applicants are subject to pre-employment drug test.

**How to Apply:** Submit your completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan, Monday through Friday, 7:30am – 4:30pm (Except Legal Holidays). Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: [employment.applications@cucgov.org](mailto:employment.applications@cucgov.org)

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## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



# REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES CUC-RAESP-21-024

## A&E Design Services for the Dandan Water Tank Replacement Project, Kagman Water Tank Replacement Project, and the Tinian Water Tank Replacement Project

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) in coordination with the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified Architectural and Engineering (A&E) firms for the Design Services of the following projects: Dandan Water Tank Replacement Project, Kagman Water Tank Replacement Project, and the Tinian Water Tank Replacement in Saipan and Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

*This project is funded by a grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from NMHC & HUD.*

Prospective Proposers for this project must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RAESP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one package set.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Proposal and One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Cost Proposal in a separate envelope** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-RAESP-21-024, A&E Design Services for Dandan Water Tank Replacement Project, Kagman Water Tank Replacement Project, and the Tinian Water Tank Replacement Project”, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 20, 2021**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers who submit proposal determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from the proposal submitted by competing proposers.

All proposers are advised that CUC and NMHC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Consultant's preparation of a proposal under the contract. The RAESP does not commit CUC and NMHC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the statement of qualifications under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Consultants are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RAESP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 29, 2021** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org) with a copy to Mr. Larry Manacop, CUC Water/Wastewater, Acting Chief Engineer – via email [larry.manacop@cucgov.org](mailto:larry.manacop@cucgov.org); and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Administrative Technician Senior – via email [marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org](mailto:marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org).

CUC and NMHC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC and NMHC.

WILLIAM B. GILMORE  
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator



Elieco D. Cabrera  
Administrator

## Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

Division of Coastal Resources Management  
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315  
[www.dcrm.gov.mp](http://www.dcrm.gov.mp)



Janice E. Castro  
Director, DCRM

# NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on **Wednesday, May 19, 2021, 9:30AM** at the BECQ 3rd Floor Conference Room, in Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

Due to the ongoing threat of COVID-19 and to ensure the health and safety of all, virtual public participation is highly encouraged via video conferencing through Zoom (*Meeting ID: 959 2446 1622 Passcode: 181110*) or join via telephone by calling the DCRM office at (670) 664-8300 for connection assistance. Zoom Meeting access code may change. Please call DCRM for an update.

## AGENDA

### I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of April 5 & April 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes

### II. PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

- CRM Permit Application No. TMS-2021-025**  
Project: INVASIVE UNGULATE CONTROL WITH PLANT MANAGEMENT  
Applicant: OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF TINIAN  
*The Office of the Mayor of Tinian is proposing to implement control measures on the effects of taking of the Micronesian megapode by creating additional megapode habitat followed by plant management on Aguiguan Island.*
  - Agencies' Discussion
  - Agencies' Final Determination

### III. OTHER MATTERS

- Adoption of proposed amendments to NMIAC § 15-10 to create incentives for building redevelopment and stormwater management
- Adoption of proposed amendments to NMIAC § 15-10-220 to specify location of permit hearings for projects outside the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota
- Authorization for DCRM Director to promulgate proposed regulation amendments

### IV. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ JANICE E. CASTRO  
Director, DCRM

# Business

## IRS to the rescue?

WASHINGTON (AP)—Republicans say they won't raise taxes on corporations. Democrats say they won't raise taxes on people making less than \$400,000 a year. So who is going to pay for the big public works boost that lawmakers and President Joe Biden say is necessary for the country?

Enter the IRS.

Biden is proposing that Congress build up the depleted and often-maligned agency, saying that a more aggressive collection of unpaid taxes could help cover the cost of his multitrillion-dollar plan to boost infrastructure, families and education. More resources to boost audits of businesses, estates and the wealthy would raise \$700 billion over 10 years, the White House estimates.

It's just the latest idea emerging in the bipartisan talks over an infrastructure bill, which saw Biden huddle at the White House this week with congressional leaders and a group of Republican senators. The GOP senators, touting a \$568 billion infrastructure plan of their own, said they were "encouraged" by the discussion with Biden, but all sides acknowledged that how to pay for the public works plan remains a difficult problem.

House Speaker Nancy Pe-

loisi said Biden brought up his IRS proposal as he met Wednesday with the top four congressional leaders.

"My understanding is it's at least \$1 trillion, it could be a trillion-and-a-quarter, a trillion-and-a-half dollars of illegally, unpaid taxes in the country," Pelosi said. "Part of the answer is to beef up the IRS so they could take in those taxes, and that's a big chunk. That could go a long way."

She was referring to the tax gap, which is the difference

### » Tax audits eyed for infrastructure cash

between taxes paid and taxes owed. In a politically charged climate, there isn't agreement on how big the tax gap is, let alone how much of it could be captured. But it's a tantalizing target for lawmakers, raising the potential to raise hundreds of billions in revenue without needing to raise taxes at all.

The question is how big the tax gap really is—and how much it can realistically be closed.

The Internal Revenue Service has estimated the tax gap is \$440 billion per year. But IRS Commissioner Charles Rettig stunned his audience at a recent Senate hearing when

he offered a new number: about \$1 trillion annually.

The old estimates don't take into account the recent boom in income made by self-employed "gig" workers, which can be underreported, concealed offshore income and the rising use of cryptocurrency, which makes it hard for the IRS to identify taxpayers in third-party transactions, experts say.

The \$1 trillion figure "is not crazy. That's totally possible," says Steve Wamhoff, director of federal tax policy at the left-leaning Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy.

But Sen. Mike Crapo of Idaho, the senior Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, called it "speculation." And he's worried it could push the IRS toward overzealous enforcement.

"It would be detrimental if IRS efforts do not strike the appropriate balance between taxpayer responsibilities and taxpayer rights," Crapo told Rettig in a letter this week.

The IRS has been on the losing end of congressional funding fights in recent years, taking a cut of about 20% since 2010, adjusting for inflation, even as its responsibilities have grown. Biden's new spending proposals include an extra \$80 billion over 10 years to bolster IRS audits of upper-income individuals and corporations.

## Pipeline operator says 'normal operations' have resumed

ATLANTA (AP)—The operator of the nation's largest gasoline pipeline—hit on May 7th by a ransomware attack—announced Saturday that it has resumed "normal operations," delivering fuel to its markets, including a large swath of the East Coast.

Georgia-based Colonial Pipeline had begun the process of restarting the pipeline's operations on Wednesday evening, warning it could take several days for the supply chain to return to normal.

"Since that time, we have returned the system to normal operations, delivering millions of gallons per hour to the markets we serve," Colonial Pipeline said in a tweet Saturday. Those markets include Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia, South and North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Washington D.C., Delaware, Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

"All of these markets are now receiving product from our pipeline," the company said, noting how its employees across the pipeline "worked safely and tirelessly around the clock to get our lines up

and running."

Gas shortages, which spread from the South, all but emptying stations in Washington, D.C., have been improving since a peak on Thursday night. Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm told The Associated Press on Friday that the nation is "over the hump" on gas shortages, with about 200 stations returning to service every hour.

"It's still going to work its way through the system over the next few days, but we should be back to normal fairly soon," she said.

Some stations were still out of gas in Raleigh, North Carolina, on Saturday. Driver Jermaine Barnes told CBS17 the shortage has made him more conservative with his trips.

"I'm not going places I don't need to go," he said. "I'm not visiting people. I'm watching where I'm driving. I'm doing everything different right now."

Some drivers responded angrily on Facebook Saturday to a post by ABC-13 in Asheville, North Carolina, about the pipeline resuming normal operations. Several said the

majority of gas stations still did not have fuel and those that did receive deliveries were quickly selling out.

Martha Meade, manager for public and government relations at AAA Mid-Atlantic, said many gas stations in the Virginia area still did not have gas on Saturday. But she said "lines have diminished from the height of the crisis" and "panic buying has subsided."

Multiple sources confirmed to The Associated Press that Colonial Pipeline had paid the criminals who committed the cyberattack a ransom of nearly \$5 million in cryptocurrency for the software decryption key required to unscramble their data network.

The ransom—75 Bitcoin—was paid last Saturday, a day after the criminals locked up Colonial's corporate network, according to Tom Robinson, co-founder of the cryptocurrency-tracking firm Elliptic. Prior to Robinson's blog post, two people briefed on the case had confirmed the payment amount to AP.

The pipeline system delivers about 45% of the gasoline consumed on the East Coast.

# Nation

## Protests in major US cities decry airstrikes over Gaza

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Pro-Palestinian protesters took to the streets of Los Angeles, New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Atlanta and other U.S. cities on Saturday to demand an end to Israeli airstrikes over the Gaza Strip.

Thousands of people shut down traffic on a major thoroughfare in west Los Angeles as they marched two miles from outside the federal building to the Israeli consulate. The protesters waved signs that said "free Palestine" and shouted "long live intifada," or uprising.

A protest that started in a neighborhood in the Bay Ridge neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York, which has a large Arabic-speaking community, continued through the streets for several hours on Saturday afternoon. Footage on social media showed people had climbed up the poles of street lights to wave flags while others set off fireworks. As the sun set, some protesters walked onto the Interstate 278 shutting down traffic in at least on direction, according to video posted online.

Bella Hadid, a well-known



A demonstrator takes part in a protest outside the Federal Building against Israel and in support of Palestinians, Saturday, May 15, 2021 in the Westwood section of Los Angeles.

Palestinian-American model, participated in the Brooklyn protest.

The marches coincided with Nakba Day, which commemorate the 1948 displacement of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians amid Israel's declaration of independence.

In Atlanta, hundreds of pro-Palestinian demonstrators, including grandparents, teenagers and mothers and fathers with youngsters in tow, assembled downtown to wave signs and chant slogans, the Atlanta Journal Constitution reported.

One sign read, "We can't

breathe since 1948"—a nod to the racial injustice and police brutality protests in the U.S. during the past year in the wake of George Floyd's death in police custody after he couldn't breathe, the newspaper reported.

In San Francisco, a raucous crowd banged drums and yelled "Palestine will be free" as they marched across the Mission district to Dolores Park.

A similar scene played out in Boston as protesters walked a short distance from Copley Square to the Israeli Consulate for New England, blocking traffic.

## Republican Arizona election official says Trump 'unhinged'

PHOENIX (AP)—The Republican who now leads the Arizona county elections department targeted by a GOP audit of the 2020 election results is slamming former President Donald Trump and others in his party for their continued falsehoods about how the election was run.

Maricopa County Recorder Stephen Richer on Saturday called a Trump statement accusing the county of deleting an elections database "unhinged" and called on other Republicans to stop the unfounded accusations.

"We can't indulge these insane lies any longer. As a party. As a state. As a country," Richer tweeted.

Richer became recorder in January, after defeating the Democratic incumbent.

The former president's statement came as Republican Senate President Karen Fann has demanded the Republican-dominated Maricopa County Board of Supervisors come to the Senate to answer questions raised by the private auditors she has hired. The Senate took pos-

session of 2.1 million ballots and election equipment last month for what was supposed to be a three-week hand recount of the presidential race won by Democratic President Joe Biden.

Instead, the auditors have moved as a snail's pace and had to shut down Thursday after counting about 500,000 ballots. They plan to resume counting in a week, after high school graduation ceremonies planned for the Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Phoenix, which they rented for the recount.

Trump's statement said, in part, that "the entire Database of Maricopa County in Arizona has been DELETED! This is illegal and the Arizona State Senate, who is leading the Forensic Audit, is up in arms."

Richer and the board say that statement is just plain wrong. In recent days, both he and the board have begun aggressively pushing back at what they see as continuing falsehoods from Republicans who question Trump's loss.

"Enough with the defama-

tion. Enough with the unfounded allegations," Richer tweeted Thursday. "I came to this office to competently, fairly, and lawfully administer the duties of the office. Not to be accused by own party of shredding ballots and deleting files for an election I didn't run. Enough."

The board, led by Republican Chairman Jack Sellers, have been aggressively using Twitter in recent days to push back, firing off a series of messages slamming the private company doing the audit. The board plans to hold a public hearing Monday to further to refute lies and lay out facts about these issues.

"I know you all have grown weary of lies and half-truths six months after 2020 General Elections," Sellers said Friday in announcing Monday's meeting.

Fann sent Sellers a letter on Wednesday requesting that county officials publicly answer questions at the Senate on Tuesday, but she stopped short of her threat to issue subpoenas.

# World

## Israel strikes Gaza home of Hamas leader

**GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip** (AP)—Israel slammed the Gaza Strip with airstrikes, in a dramatic escalation that included bombing the home of a senior Hamas leader, killing a family of 10 in a refugee camp—most of them children—and pulverizing a high-rise that housed The Associated Press and other media.

The Hamas militant group continued a stream of rocket volleys into Israel, including a late-night barrage on Tel Aviv. One man was killed Saturday when a rocket hit his home in a suburb of the seaside metropolis.

With a U.S. envoy on the ground, calls increased for a cease-fire after five days of mayhem that have left at least 145 Palestinians dead in Gaza—including 41 children and 23 women—and eight dead on the Israeli side, all but

one of them civilians, including a 5-year-old. President Joe Biden, who has called for a de-escalation but has backed Israel's campaign, spoke separately by phone with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas.

Still, Israel stepped up its assault, vowing to shatter the capabilities of Gaza's Hamas rulers. The week of deadly violence, set off by a Hamas rocket Monday, came after weeks of mounting tensions and heavy-handed Israeli measures in contested Jerusalem.

Early Sunday, Israeli warplanes struck several buildings and roads in a vital part of Gaza City. Photos circulated by residents and journalists showed the airstrikes created a crater that blocked one of the main roads leading to Shifa,

the largest hospital in the strip.

The Health Ministry said the latest airstrikes left at least two dead and 25 wounded, including children and women. There has been no immediate comment from the Israeli military.

On Saturday, Israel bombed the home of Khalil al-Hayeh, a senior figure in Hamas' political branch, saying the building served as part of the group's "terrorist infrastructure." There

was no immediate report on al-Hayeh's fate or on any casualties.

The bombing of al-Hayeh's home showed Israel was expanding its campaign beyond just the group's military commanders. Israel says it has killed dozens in Hamas' military branch, though Hamas and the smaller group Islamic Jihad have only acknowledged 20 dead members.

Since the conflict began, Isra-

el has leveled a number of Gaza City's tallest office and residential buildings, alleging they house elements of the Hamas military infrastructure. On Saturday, it turned to the 12-story al-Jalaa Building, where the offices of the AP, the TV network Al-Jazeera and other media outlets are located, along with several floors of apartments.

"The campaign will continue as long as it is required," Netan-

yahu said in a televised speech on Saturday evening. He alleged that Hamas military intelligence was operating inside the building. Israel routinely cites a Hamas presence as a reason for targeting certain locations in airstrikes, including residential buildings. The military also has accused the militant group of using journalists as human shields, but provided no evidence to back up the claims.

## Indian police find bodies on riverbank amid raging COVID-19

**PRAYAGRAJ, India** (AP)—Police are reaching out to villagers in northern India to investigate the recovery of bodies buried in shallow sand graves or washing up on the Ganges River banks, prompting speculation on social media that they were the remains of COVID-19 victims.

In jeeps and boats, the police used portable loudspeakers with microphones asking people not to dispose of the bodies in rivers. "We are here to help you perform the last rites," police said.

On Friday, rains exposed the cloth coverings of bodies buried in shallow sand graves on the riverbank in Prayagraj, a city in Uttar Pradesh state.

Navneet Sehgal, a state government spokesman, on Sunday denied local media reports that more than 1,000 corpses of COVID-19 victims had been recovered from rivers in the past two weeks. "I bet these bodies have nothing to do with COVID-19," he said.

He said some villagers did not cremate their dead, as is customary, due to a Hindu tradition during some periods of religious significance and disposed of them in rivers or digging graves on riverbanks. K.P. Singh, a senior police officer, said authorities had earmarked a cremation ground for those who died of COVID-19 on the Prayagraj riverbank and the police were no longer allowing any burials on the riverfront.

Sehgal state authorities have found "a small number" of bodies on the riverbanks, he

said, but didn't give a figure.

Ramesh Kumar Singh, a member of Bondhu Mahal Samiti, a philanthropic organization that helps cremate bodies, said the number of deaths is very high in rural areas, and poor people have been disposing of the bodies in the river because of the exorbitant cost of performing the last rites and shortage of woods. The cremation cost has tripled up to 15,000 rupees (\$210).

Health authorities last week retrieved 71 bodies that washed up on the Ganges River bank in neighboring Bihar state.

Authorities performed post mortems but said they could not confirm the cause of death due to decomposition.

A dozen corpses were also found last week buried in sand at two locations on the riverbank in Unnao district, 40 kilometers (25 miles) southwest of Lucknow, the Uttar Pradesh state capital. District Magistrate Ravindra Kumar said an investigation is underway to identify the cause of deaths.

India's two big states, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, with nearly 358 million people in total, are among the worst hit in the surge sweeping through the country with devastating death tolls. Hapless villagers have been rushing the sick to nearby towns and cities for treatment, many of them dying on the way, victims of India's crumbling health care.

After hitting record highs for weeks, the number of new cases was stabilizing, said Dr. V.K. Paul, a government health expert.

### I AM SAFELY HOME

# † RUDOLFO

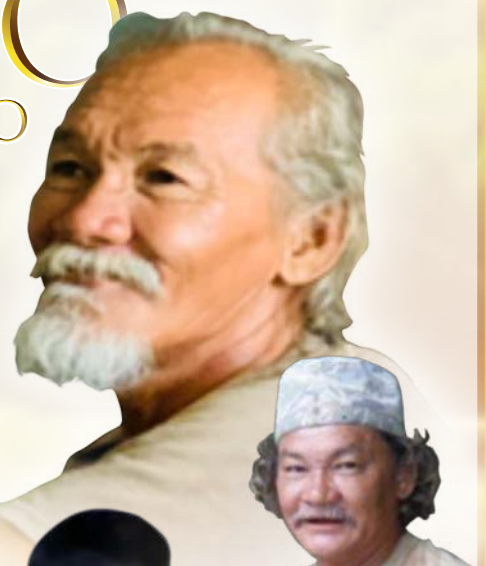

## TAITANO CAMACHO

June 12, 1963 - May 9, 2021  
(LOVINGLY KNOWN AS "RUDY")

Born on June 12, 1963, **Rudy** walked the path to his new home in God's Paradise on Sunday, May 09, 2021. Rudy is greeted and welcomed at Heaven's gate by **his parents Ignacio Sablan and Rosa Lisua Taitano Camacho; brother Jose T. Camacho; sister Lourdes Taitano Camacho DeLeon Guerrero; grandnephew, James Peter Camacho DeLeon Guerrero paternal grandparents Jesus Castro and Rita Reyes Sablan Camacho; maternal grandparents Ignacio Quitano and Maria Taroligai Lisua Taitano; and, mother in law Margarita Sanchez Castro; and brothers in law: Thomas Babauta Castro, Jr., and Nick Sanchez Castro, and, other family members who are at peaceful rest in Paradise.**

**Rudy** was a very kind, caring, humble, supportive, and most especially a very hard working person with a big heart. Rudy had a passion for being with his boys, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews, teaching them the outdoor living and survival of life, hunting, hiking, fishing, and helping out with the family farm.

**Rudy's** fond memories will forever be treasured in the hearts of his wife, Judith "Judi" Sanchez Castro; his three sons, spouses and family – **Rudolfo Castro Camacho** and Loretta Stenglén (Rudith Laluna and Zeus Hunter); **Ignacio Castro Camacho** and DaveyAnn Iguel ((Nathalia Risa, Jose Zeke and Camdyn Juvian); and, **Jared Castro Camacho** (Jaydin Royce and Jarie Rese)

**Rudy's Siblings- – David T. and Rita DLG. Camacho and children; Leticia T. Camacho and children; Bertha T. Camacho and Edward B. Mendiola and children; Dellina T. Camacho and children; Tina S. and Zeno C. Deleon Guerrero and children;**

**Rudy's Aunt and Uncle- Tomasa Camacho Naraja and Fermin Muna Sakisat**

**Rudy's Father in Law and spouse- Thomas Babauta Castro, Sr., and Jin Castro; his brother, sister and in law: Jacqueline T. Castro and children; Children and family of +Nick; and, Clarinda C. and Joey Ocampo and children. Rudy is additionally survived by his numerous loving and caring aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, godson and special friends.**

Daily masses of intention are offered each morning at 6:00AM at Mount Carmel Cathedral and 6:00PM at San Roque Church, Saturday and Sunday, mass is at 7:00AM.

**Rudy will be with us for the last time on Tuesday, May 18, 2021. Rudy's funeral cortege will leave CHCC Chapel at 8:30 a.m. to San Roque Church. Responso and visitation will be at 9:00 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. followed immediately with Rite of Committal at San Roque Cemetery where we shall bid him our final farewell and place him in his final rest in God's paradise.**

Your thoughts, prayers, words of comfort and presence are sincerely appreciated.

**Judi and Children**

The Children and family of the †Ignacio S. and †Rosa T. Camacho



# Health & Wellness

This advertorial  
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Tan Siu Lin  
Foundation

## Five tips to love your heart

**H**earth disease remains the No. 1 cause of death in the U.S., with over 655,000 dying annually, according to the American Heart Association. In an ongoing effort to raise awareness around heart health and help prevent heart disease, February is recognized as Heart Month.

Dr. Amy Pollak, a Mayo Clinic cardiologist, says it's a great time to show yourself some love and offers her top five tips to keep your heart—and your body—in shape.

### 1 Know your numbers.

Aiming to maintain a healthy weight is important, but it is important to be aware of other numbers, especially your blood pressure.

"While many of us know what we weigh, we may not be as aware of things like our blood pressure or cholesterol, which can significantly increase our risk for heart attack or

stroke," says Dr. Pollak.

She says you should check your blood pressure two to three times a week. "You don't know if it's high or if it's at goal, unless you're checking it."

### 2 Feed your heart.

Research shows consuming food high in sugar, salt and saturated fat can increase the risk for heart disease. But it's often difficult to change your eating habits.

Dr. Pollak says embracing a Mediterranean diet is the way to go:

Eat at least five servings of fruits and vegetables. Besides being low in calories and rich in dietary fiber, fruits and vegetables are full of important vitamins and minerals.

Use olive oil when you cook or in salads instead of mayonnaise or other rich condiments.

Eat at least one serving of fish per week. Mayo Clinic's website and the American Heart Association's website feature many recipes.



Heart Month is a great time to show yourself some love.

### 3 Cut the salt - and the sugar.

As good as it tastes, Dr. Pollak says too much sodium can cause high blood pressure. Avoid processed foods, and stock up on a variety of herbs and spices to use in your cooking.

A diet that is low sugar is important, too. Monitoring your blood sugar levels is especially important if you have diabetes.

### 4 Move more.

"Keep your heart healthy by getting active," says Dr. Pollak.

American Heart Association guidelines recommend 150 minutes

a week of moderate-intensity aerobic activity or 75 minutes per week of vigorous activity. "Ideally, the goal would be five times a week, but it's important to find something—anything—you love to do that gets you moving, even if it's in small increments," adds Dr. Pollak. For instance, parking farther away from the grocery store entrance or taking the stairs at work instead of the elevator can count toward your fitness goals.

But don't fret if you miss a day here or there. "There are going to be periods in your week and in your month where that's not possible. So cut yourself some slack. And then just start fresh the next week."

### 5 Lighten your load.

Stress can be a trigger for many people, which can increase your blood pressure and lead to other unhealthy habits, such as smoking, difficulty sleeping and overeating. Dr. Pollak recommends making mindfulness a part of your daily routine as well as activities to help you relax. "It can be challenging, but try to reduce your stress and anxiety. Stop smoking. Consider massage or yoga, or meditation. Make a cup of tea and curl up with a good book. Be thoughtful about the choices you make daily because your heart will thank you." (*Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS*)

## MAYO CLINIC Q AND A

# How owning pets can lead to a healthier lifestyle

**DEAR MAYO CLINIC:** I have been working from home as a result of COVID-19. The adjustment has been difficult, and created a lot of stress and strain on my mental and physical health. I find that I spend much of my time in front of the computer. I eat more often, and I barely go outside. A friend suggested I adopt a dog to lift my spirits and get me motivated to go outside. Would I see any real benefits from this? Is there any connection between pets and our health?

**ANSWER:** Pets play a huge role in creating a healthy lifestyle. In fact, studies have shown that pet ownership can enhance fitness levels, lower blood pressure and cholesterol levels, relieve stress, improve mental and heart health, and boost overall happiness and well-being. Evidence also suggests that connections to pets provide good social support—an important factor in helping you stick with new health habits.

One of the main benefits is that dogs force us to get up and move for routine and regular walks. A research study found that dog owners more likely report regular physical

activity patterns, a healthy diet and ideal blood sugar levels compared to those who do not own dogs. This is beneficial to your heart health because increased physical activity helps strengthen your heart muscles, making it more efficient in pumping blood throughout your body and improving overall heart health.

It's no secret that pets contribute to overall happiness. Owning a dog has even been linked to better mental health and less perception of social isolation—both risk factors for heart attacks. Dog owners have increased interaction with people, and are less likely to experience depression. This helps to diminish social isolation, which can reduce worse health outcomes and premature death.

Even just interacting with a dog has shown to increase levels of "feel-good" brain chemicals, such as oxytocin and dopamine. This creates positive, happy feelings and a great bonding experience for you and your pet. Pets bring a significant benefit to working from home. Over 50% of people surveyed said they would prefer if they could bring their pet to work.



Pets play a huge role in creating a healthy lifestyle. DREAMSTIME/TNS

There are four major ways pets can help with your mental health while working from home:

- Pets can reduce work-related stress. Two out of three employees say work stresses them out, and 40% say their job gets in the way of their health. Studies show that pets in the workplace reduce stress and improve employee satisfaction.

- Pets help manage anxiety. Up to 30% of the workforce could be working from home multiple days per week by the end of 2021, according to Global Workplace Analytics. So, now more than ever, people are struggling with mental health. Pets provide companionship and support.

- Pets help you be more active. Pets give us a reason to get outside, get some fresh air and get in some physical activity.

- Pets combat loneliness. The bond with pets helps people feel less alone. Owners can touch, see, hear or talk to their companion animals, which helps to bring joy and happiness.

Aside from your mental health, owning a pet—a canine in particular—can significantly help your heart. This is the finding of a Kardiozive Brno 2030 study, which looked at the association of pet ownership—specifically dog ownership—with car-

diovascular disease risk factors and cardiovascular health, in part due to the increase in physical activity.

While walking a dog around the neighborhood may not always sound so enticing, don't forget to look for ways to incorporate your furry friend into other activities. If your neighborhood has a local dog park, it's a wonderful way for your dog to let off some steam while you make friends with other canine owners.

Consider also that you can hop in the car with your pet and have a picnic elsewhere. Bring healthy snacks for both of you. In warmer months, venture out to a nearby beach or lake. You can run or walk on the shore, chase balls, and swim. There is always something to be said for getting exercise outdoors and having a companion.

Owning a dog is a big decision that takes a lot of responsibility, but there are countless mental and physical benefits. Consider getting a pet to help you be more active and socially connected, while also improving heart health and promoting a healthy lifestyle. (*Mayo Clinic News Network/TNS*)

# Life & Style

## Chrissy Teigen apologizes to Courtney Stodden for harassment

NEW YORK (AP)—Chrissy Teigen has apologized for harassing a then-teenage Courtney Stodden online years ago.

"Not a lot of people are lucky enough to be held accountable for all their past (expletive) in front of the entire world. I'm mortified and sad at who I used to be. I was an insecure, attention seeking troll," Teigen tweeted Wednesday in a long thread.

She continued: "I have

worked so hard to give you guys joy and be beloved and the feeling of letting you down is nearly unbearable, truly. These were not my only mistakes and surely won't be my last as hard as I try but god I will try!!"

The 35-year-old Teigen, with more than 13 million followers on Twitter, was in her mid-20s when she harassed Stodden. That included tweets urging Stodden to end their



AP  
Chrissy Teigen appears at the Vanity Fair Oscar Party in Beverly Hills, Calif. on Feb. 9, 2020, left, and Courtney Stodden appears at the 5th Annual Streamy Awards in Los Angeles on Sept. 17, 2015.

that of many others came as they faced intense media criticism at age 16 for marrying 51-year-old Doug Hutchison in 2011. The two divorced last year. The marriage led to international fame for the young model and singer-songwriter from Washington state, including TV appearances on

"Celebrity Big Brother" and her own "Courtney."

Stodden accepted Teigen's apology in a post on Instagram, with reservations.

"All of me wants to believe this is a sincere apology, but it feels like a public attempt to save her partnerships with Target and other brands who are realizing her 'wokeness' is a broken record," Stodden said.

Teigen has a line of cookware called Cravings. She's a model and cookbook author who's married to R&B crooner John Legend.

## Prince Harry thought about quitting royal life in his 20s

LOS ANGELES

(AP)—Prince Harry compared his royal experience to being on "The Truman Show" and "living in a zoo."

The Duke of Sussex said during a Thursday episode



Harry

the spotlight the same way his late mother, Princess Diana, had to deal with the enormous attention.

In 1997, Diana died in a car crash at the age of 36 in Paris while being pursued by paparazzi.

"I don't want this job, I don't want to be here, I don't want to be doing this. Look what it did to my mum," the 36-year-old Harry said.

In a previous interview, Harry said the royal family cut him off financially at the start of 2020 after he announced plans to step back from his roles. But he was able to afford security for his family because of the money his mother left behind.

Harry and Meghan's departure from royal duties began last year over what they described as the British media's intrusions and racist attitudes toward the duchess. He criticized some American media outlets but said they are an improvement over the ones in the U.K.

life. Stodden is a reality TV personality who identifies as non-binary and uses the pro-

noun "they."

Stodden told the Daily Beast that Teigen's harassment and

## Kardashians reveal mystery behind Nori's Black Book

NEW YORK (AP)—Kardashian fans were tickled by a big reveal: A California government worker is behind a mystery social media handle that's been cranking out troll posts from North West's point of view since Kim's eldest was born seven years ago.

She's Natalie Franklin, 34, of Sacramento, and she was thrilled to appear on Thursday night's episode of "Keeping Up With the Kardashians" after Kim and sister Khloe tracked her down.

"Oh, my God, it was so great," Franklin told The Associated Press after the episode aired. "I've never met famous, famous people before."

The sisters were equally excited after ruling out various family members and friends as the creator of @norisblackbook on Twitter and Instagram.

"She is everything and more," Kim said on the show



Kardashian

of meeting Franklin. "She started this account before North even had a personality, so she made up this personality and luckily that's who North's personality is."

Khloe added: "I have a legend right in front of us."

Fans and the family took to Twitter as the reveal unfolded, swamping Franklin's secret account as the show rolled on.

Franklin, who manages websites and internet service for a state agency, said she got the idea from Suri's Burn Book, a popular blog that's still alive on social media commenting on the world from the eyes of Suri Cruise. Franklin decided to make North a tad on the snarky side at a time when Kim and dad Kanye West often dressed their first born in black, hadn't yet revealed her face and the Kardashians had a kid clothing line at Babies R Us.

## Bill Maher taping canceled after host's positive virus test

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A taping of Bill Maher's weekly HBO show was canceled after the host tested positive for COVID-19.

Maher, who is fully vaccinated, is "asymptomatic and feels fine," according to a statement Thursday from HBO. "No other staff or crew members have tested positive at this time," the channel said.

The taping of Friday's episode of "Real Time with Bill Maher" will be rescheduled, HBO said. Guests were to include astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson and podcast host Dan Carlin.

Maher was tested as part of the Los Angeles production's



Maher

weekly protocol for staff, the channel said, adding that "every precaution" is taken in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines regarding the coronavirus.

The comedian and political gadfly moved back to in-

studio shows with a limited audience late last summer, after taping episodes at his home in the early months of the pandemic.

TV and filmmaking gradually resumed after last year's pandemic-forced shutdown, but despite strict safety rules there have been other production holds caused by a cast or crew member's positive virus test.

## Family member wants flow of unwanted junk to stop

DEAR ABBY: Like many people in this country, my family has an aversion to throwing things out that might still be useful. Rather than load up the van and head to Goodwill, they give the stuff to me—partially used bottles of shampoo, a half-used pack of wipes, hair conditioner that smells too awful for them to use but they're sure I'll like, unwanted change purses and jewelry I would never wear, even puzzles with missing or dog-chewed pieces. They have also tried to offload old sewing machines, DVDs they won't watch and craft supplies for projects I don't enjoy.

Once, a sister tried to give me an old toaster oven filled with burnt breadcrumbs. (I have celiac disease.) Another time, Dad gave me a gift certificate for an oil change my mother won in a raffle after telling me he and another sister won't go to that auto shop because they damaged my sister's engine and did a lousy job working on my parents' car!

It's not like I'm so poor I can't afford my own toaster oven or wipes, but if I turn down their unwanted items, as politely as I can, they become defensive with me. So I usually just say thanks and either toss the stuff in the trash or load it into my van and take it to Goodwill myself. But I'm tired of feeling like the family dump, and wish I could find a way to get it through their lovingly muddled heads that I'd rather not be "gifted" with

their junk. Any thoughts?

THANKS BUT NO THANKS IN MISSISSIPPI

**DEAR T.B.N.T.:** The next time your parents and siblings call to tell you they're coming over with more discards, tell them you know they mean well, but NO. And keep repeating it until they finally get through their lovingly muddled heads that you mean it.

**DEAR ABBY:** I am writing because I'm in a tough situation and not sure what to do. I was recently told by a family member that my 24-year-old son is gay. (He hasn't given me any indication that he is, other than not dating anyone for several years.) He had a bad experience with a girl in his teens and I assumed that was why he hasn't dated.

My question for you is, should I confront him about it or wait until he tells me? I have come to terms with the possibility and will stand by him no matter what. I am also concerned that his father (we are divorced) will disown him if he finds out. Any advice would be greatly appreciated.

MOM IN OHIO

**DEAR MOM:** It would be interesting to know why this relative thinks your son is gay. Did your son tell the rela-

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**ive? I don't think you should "confront" your son. In time his sexual orientation will become apparent whether he's gay, straight, bi, asexual, etc. It should be his choice to reveal it—or not.**

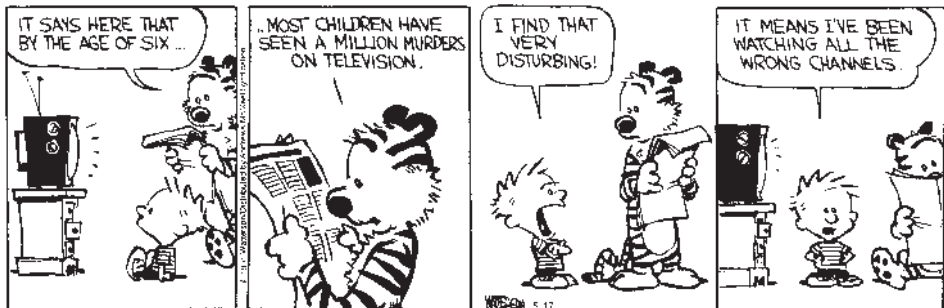
**P.S. If he is gay, your ex-husband's inability to accept his son, regardless of his sexual orientation, may be the reason he hasn't spoken up.**

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



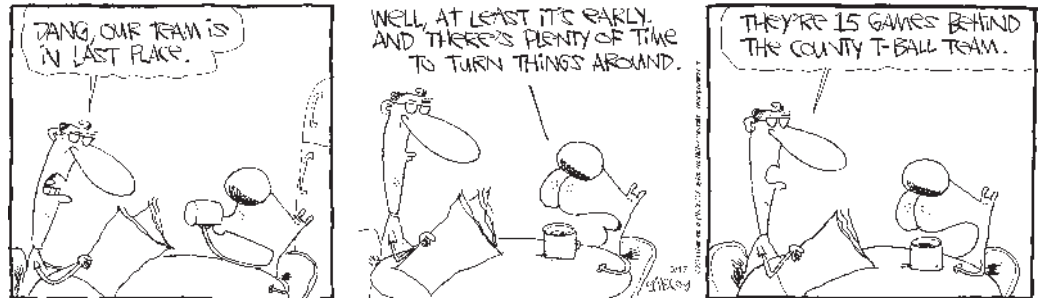
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Bart's sister  
5 Doctrine  
8 "Como — usted?"  
12 Burden  
13 Prefix with natal  
14 Numbered rds.  
15 Both (Pref.)  
16 "Stay with Me" singer  
18 Familiar feeling  
20 :-)  
21 Dweeb  
23 French article  
24 Virginia-born golf legend  
28 Harrow rival  
31 Peyton's brother  
32 Ticked off  
34 Sandy color  
35 Rapper Kanye  
37 Legendary "You Send Me" singer  
39 Cagers' gp.

**DOWN**

1 Washing machine unit  
2 "By the power vested — ..."  
3 Pt. of a sentence  
4 Tibetans, e.g.  
5 Prudential, Travelers, and others  
6 Mermaid's home  
7 May year  
8 Winter weasel  
9 Heel type  
10 Head, to Henri  
11 Wan  
17 Dallas sch.  
19 Caesar's "I came"  
22 Senegal's  
24 Stitch  
25 Pub pint  
26 Incorrect term  
27 Bad marks  
29 Desk wood  
30 Compass dir.  
33 Early 7th-century  
36 Sporty Fords  
38 Fish-eating hawk  
40 Simile center  
42 Greek mountain  
43 Indonesian island  
44 Gratuities  
46 Castor's mother  
47 Online auction site  
48 Orange veggies  
50 Cattle call

**Solution time: 26 mins.**

**Last Friday's Answer 05/17**

**CRY** **SALT** **FETE**  
**OVA** **ULEE** **EVIL**  
**HERMIONE** **VENI**  
**ORNATE** **THE**  
**LES** **HEADED**  
**ROVID** **FEW** **FNC**  
**ODEA** **BAD** **BAIT**  
**TIE** **RED** **BARDS**  
**HERBAL** **MAY**  
**DECO** **HERCULES**  
**ATOZ** **ORCA** **LOP**  
**ABABE** **PAIR** **SSS**

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Nikki Reed, 33; Erin Richards, 35; Hill Harper, 35; Bob Saget, 65.

**Happy Birthday:** Put more emphasis on home, family and finding innovative ways to use both work and downtime efficiently and effectively. Maintaining balance will be the key to your success on both fronts. Don't limit the possibilities because you are afraid to do things differently. Welcome change, and you will find it easier to take advantage of economic trends. Your numbers are 4, 11, 18, 26, 34, 43, 47.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Take it easy. Refuse to let anyone bring out the worst in you. Control your emotions, and don't let your temper take over. Peace and love will help you get your way. Discord will hinder your chance to advance. \*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Take unique approach to how you live and how you determine what will promote personal growth and enlightenment. Gravitate toward the people who bring out the best in you and contribute to your pursuits. Choose stability over chaos. \*\*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Someone will hold you accountable if you exaggerate. Think twice before you share information. Stick to the truth and abide by the rules. Someone you least expect will reveal information that can jeopardize your reputation. Choose your words wisely. \*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Rely on your ingenuity to help you get ahead. Taking a different approach will attract atten-

tion and help you get what you want. Become the powerhouse in your circle, and you will get things up and running just the way you like. \*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Stop questioning and start doing. Meet a challenge head-on, stay within your budget and don't give anyone the chance to take over. Be the best leader you can be, and you will be the one to make a valuable contribution. \*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Take good care of your health and well-being. Invest time and effort in upgrading your skills and qualifications. Be willing to put in the effort necessary to keep up with the economic trends. Don't overstep your means. \*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** You have plenty to offer, but that doesn't mean you can force others to do or see things your way. Take a peaceful, friendly approach to whatever situation you find yourself in, and you will avoid getting into an argument. Romance is favored. \*\*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Make a change or move for the right reason. If you jump into something new too quickly, you will find yourself falling short of your expectations. Pay attention to detail, and put a strategy in place that leaves nothing to chance. \*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Put your time and money into something that will help you advance. Invest in yourself, your skills and gaining the experience you need to reach your target. Don't spend money to impress someone. Deal with relationships honestly. Romance is featured. \*\*\*\*\*

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Uncertainty will surface if you don't take part in the changes going on around. Get your voice heard, or you will lose your right to criticize and complain. Participation is the best way to resolve issues, find a workable compromise. \*\*\*



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Pay attention to domestic matters and the creative endeavors you want to pursue. Keep busy, and distance yourself from annoying people. A challenge that a friend or relative poses will limit what you can do if you don't resolve the issue peacefully. \*\*\*



**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Explore new possibilities. Participate in something you believe in, and find a way to make a difference. Take care of your health and well-being by avoiding people who aren't taking the necessary precautions to maintain a healthy lifestyle. \*\*\*\*\*

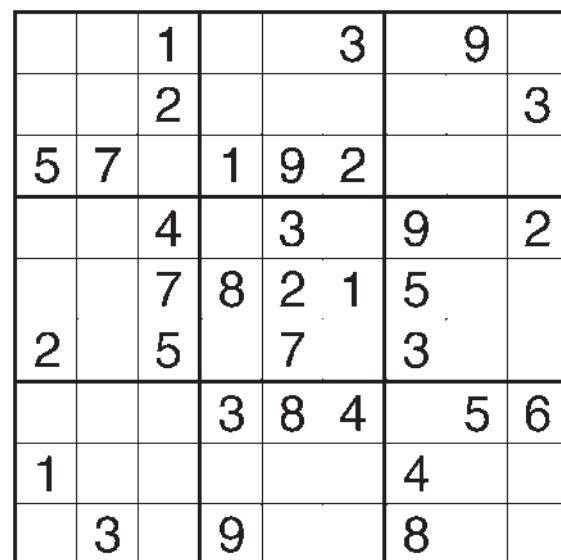
**Birthday Baby:** You are dedicated, stubborn and engaging. You are demonstrative and energetic.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☼: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

## SUDOKU

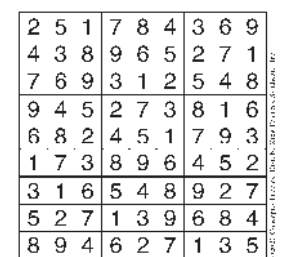
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer



Difficulty Level ★

5/17

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

CHIRPING BIRDS

Solution: 9 letters

C M D U C K F Y K W A H G E W  
H O O R C R R O I L E S N D Y  
I C M R E A E C R V R U I F L  
C K C M N L R P O E T R R L E  
K I U A U I B D P O S H P O V  
A N C R D N N R I I C T S C I  
D G K S W E I G A N D P H L L  
E B O H R T E I C I W A A W K L  
E I O S E C S F A R N L A A H  
G R N E N I B O R T O C K C I  
G D W E D N U O S U E E R O K  
S T F D S O W L D T R E E V E  
I D U S K T O R R A P I T C H  
N I G H T I N G A L E C I O V  
G A R D E N W A D U N N O C K

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Call, Canary, Cardinal, Chant, Chickadee, Communicate, Cuckoo, Dawn, Dipper, Dove, Duck, Dunnock, Dusk, Eggs, Feed, Fence, Finch, Flock, Forest, Garden, Hawk, Hike, Lake, Lively, Loud, Marsh, Mockingbird, Morning, Nest, Nightingale, Owl, Parrot, Perch, Pitch, Robin, Seeds, Sing, Sound, Sparrow, Spring, Thrush, Tree, Tune, Tweet, Vocal, Voice, Warbler, Wren

Last Friday's Answer: Barrington

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## STUMPED?

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# 'It's an honor': The Hall of Fame's class of 2020 enshrined

UNCASVILLE, Conn. (AP)—Vanessa Bryant took Michael Jordan's hand and walked down from the stage, a familiar chant breaking out throughout the arena as she made her way back to her seat. "Kobe! Kobe! Kobe!" the crowd shouted.

With that, he was — officially, finally — a member of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

Kobe Bryant is in the Hall now, along with contemporaries Tim Duncan and Kevin Garnett, headliners of a group of nine who got their delayed and long-awaited enshrinement on Saturday night, more than a year after being announced as the Hall's Class of 2020.

"Right now, I'm sure he's laughing in heaven, because I'm about to praise him in public," Vanessa Bryant said.

And she did, her purple dress matching the traditional Los Angeles Lakers color, capping the night by giving the speech that her husband was not here to deliver.

"There will never be anyone like Kobe," Vanessa Bryant said. "Kobe was one of a kind. He was special. He was humble — off the court — but bigger than life."

Bryant, Duncan and Garnett were joined in the class by three-time NCAA champion coach Kim Mulkey, two-time NBA champion coach Rudy Tomjanovich, four-time Olympic gold medalist Tamika Catchings, three-time Final Four coach Eddie Sutton, 1,000-game winner Barbara Stevens and long-time FIBA secretary general Patrick Baumann.

"I appreciate you," Garnett said to Duncan from the stage. "It's an honor to go into the hall with you, bro. You and Kob."

Duncan stayed true to who he is: modest and humble, on a day where his Spurs coach, Gregg Popovich, missed a



game to see his enshrinement.

"This is the most nervous I've ever been in my life," Duncan said as he began his speech. "Been through finals, Game 7's, this is officially the most nervous I've ever been in my life. I've been pacing in my room all day, so let's see what we get."

As usual, he delivered in the clutch.

And the other speeches didn't disappoint.

The Hall of Fame has a 10-minute countdown clock on the prompter that speakers used to assist with their remarks. Catchings blew past that with ease, going several minutes past in an emotional address that covered her many challenges.

"Basketball chose me, an awkward, lanky, introverted tomboy, born with a hearing disability, a speech impediment, and a will to overcome obstacles, dream big and to change the world," Catchings said.

Mulkey talked about her

roots, coming from a small town in Louisiana and getting to the Hall of Fame — marveling that she was presented for induction by Jordan, who held the same role for Bryant.

"Michael, I'm incredibly honored," Mulkey said. "I guess the last time we stood this close we were walking out of the '84 Olympics and we were a hell of a lot younger lookin' and probably a lot skinnier. Thank you from the bottom of my heart."

The totality of the accomplishments of the Hall class are staggering.

Bryant, Garnett, Duncan and Catchings combined for 58 All-Star appearances. Mulkey, Tomjanovich, Sutton and Stevens combined for more than 3,000 coaching wins. Baumann is widely lauded for his efforts in getting 3x3 basketball added to the Olympic program.

"My life turned out better than my wildest dreams,"

Tomjanovich said, his voice cracking.

NBA championships, WNBA championships, national championships, Olympic gold medals, MVP awards, the class had some of everything.

"We're Hall of Famers, guys," Mulkey shouted. "WE'RE HALL OF FAMERS."

And while it was a celebration, it was also a remembrance for Hall of Famers lost since the last enshrinement in 2019.

Three-time Grammy Award winner Ne-Yo performed "Incredible" in their memories, the video clips playing behind him including a message from former NBA Commissioner David Stern, who died Jan. 1, 2020, and Bryant — who died Jan. 26 of that year in a helicopter crash that also killed his daughter Gianna and seven others.

"I've always said that I wanted to be remembered as a player that didn't waste a mo-

ment, didn't waste a day, and lived every day as if he was the 12th guy on the bench," Bryant said in the video.

Bryant wasn't the only member to be inducted posthumously; so were Sutton and Baumann. Sutton's son Sean Sutton delivered a recorded message on his father's behalf, Baumann's son, Paul, and daughter, Bianca, did the same for their father.

"Thank you so much for this honor and for the opportunity to continue carrying his legacy forward," Bianca Baumann said.

Garnett spoke of legacy as well, the one he has in Minnesota and the one he still wants to have there. When he left the Timberwolves in 2007, they started a huge rebuild as a franchise. Now, with Minneapolis in need after a trying year following the 2020 death of George Floyd, Garnett wants to be part of another rebuild.

"My only regret with Minnesota is that I didn't get to

The late Kobe Bryant is honored, as are others who have died, as Ne-Yo sings "Incredible" during the 2020 Basketball Hall of Fame enshrinement ceremony Saturday, May 15, 2021, in Uncasville, Conn.

bring a championship," Garnett said. "But like I said, I look forward to rebuilding Minneapolis."

Stevens — who spent most of her career at Division II's Bentley University — was presented by Hall of Famers Geno Auriemma and Muffet McGraw, longtime rivals from so many Connecticut-Notre Dame battles.

"You guys good over there?" Stevens asked.

All was well. Auriemma and McGraw had jumped at the chance to be together with Stevens, who, like all the other honorees who were present, had countless people to thank.

"To my former players, many of whom are present: Simply put, you are the reason I stand here tonight," Stevens said. "My greatest honor was to be called your coach."

The calendar now shifts to the next class, to be unveiled Sunday at the Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts, where the next induction ceremony is scheduled for Sept. 11.

Among the finalists: Rick Adelman, Chris Bosh, Paul Pierce, Ben Wallace, Chris Webber and Jay Wright. Bill Russell is also a finalist, this time as a coach, 46 years after he was selected for the Hall as a player.

Many in the next class, like most Hall classes, will be able to say they overcame doubters—just as many in this class did. And on her husband's behalf, Vanessa Bryant had a message for those who suggested he would fall short of his goals.

"He proved you wrong," she said.

INDIANAPOLIS (AP)—LeBron James returned from a six-game absence to score 24 points, Anthony Davis had 28 and the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Indiana Pacers 122-115 on Saturday.

The Lakers can take the No. 6 seed if they win at New Orleans on Sunday and Portland loses to Denver that day. If the Lakers finish No. 7, they will be in the play-in tournament against the No. 8 seed.

James played 28 minutes, hitting 11 of 22 shots, after sitting out trying to recover from high ankle sprain. He had eight assists and seven rebounds.

Davis, who missed the previous game because of a tight left thigh, also had 10 rebounds.

## LeBron James returns to help Lakers beat Pacers

Caris LeVert led Indiana with 28 points.

### Suns 140, Spurs 103

In San Antonio, Devin Booker had 27 points and Phoenix beat San Antonio to maintain its hope of earning the top spot in the NBA and Western Conference.

Phoenix moved within a game of Utah for first in the West. The Jazz conclude their season Sunday in Sacramento while the Suns close a two-game series in San Antonio. Phoenix swept the season series against Utah.

Keldon Johnson had 18 points to lead San Antonio. The Spurs previously clinched 10th in the West and will face either Memphis or Golden

State on the road Wednesday.

San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich missed the game to attend Tim Duncan's Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

### Nets 105, Bulls 91

In New York, Kyrie Irving scored 22 points while playing with Kevin Durant and James Harden for the first time in three months, leading Brooklyn past Chicago.

The eighth appearance of the season for Brooklyn's Big Three wasn't particularly pretty, with the Nets falling quickly into a 12-0 hole. But they had some sharp stretches and won their fourth straight, improving to 6-2 with their three All-Stars in the same game.

Durant shot just 4 for 17, but finished with 12 points, nine rebounds and six assists. Harden had seven assists, five points and five rebounds while playing 25 minutes in his second game back from a hamstring injury.

Patrick Williams scored 24 points for the Bulls.

### Bucks 122, Heat 108

In Milwaukee, Khris Middleton and Bryn Forbes each scored 21 points to help Milwaukee beat Miami in a potential first-round playoff series preview.

Jrue Holiday added 20 points and 10 assists for the Bucks. Kendrick Nunn had a season-high 31 points for the Heat, who were without lead-

ing scorer Jimmy Butler because of lower back tightness.

The Bucks are third and the Heat sixth in the Eastern Conference standings, which would have them meeting in the first round of the playoffs. But neither team is locked into that position heading into the final day of the regular season.

Milwaukee still could earn the No. 2 seed if it wins at Chicago and the Brooklyn Nets lose at home to Cleveland on Sunday. Miami could move into the No. 5 spot if it beats Houston and the New York Knicks lose at home to Boston.

### Knicks 118, Hornets 109, OT

In New York, Julius Randle

had 33 points, 13 assists and 10 rebounds and led an overtime surge that sent New York past Charlotte.

The Knicks improved to 40-31 and moved into a tie with the idle Atlanta Hawks for the fourth spot in the Eastern Conference playoff race.

Miles Bridges had 30 points for the Hornets.

### Celtics 124, Timberwolves 108

In Minneapolis, Jayson Tatum had 26 points and 11 rebounds to help Boston rout Minnesota.

Evan Fournier added 18 points and was 5 of 8 from 3-point range.

Karl-Anthony Towns led Minnesota with 24 points and 14 rebounds.

# Aaron Judge homers again, Yankees beat Orioles, 8-2



**BALTIMORE**  
(AP)—Aaron

Judge homered for the third time in two games, Domingo Germán had another stellar outing at Camden Yards and the New York Yankees beat the Baltimore Orioles 8-2 on Saturday night.

After hitting two home runs Friday, Judge provided New York a 5-0 lead with a two-run shot in the second. Six of Judge's 11 homers this season have come against Baltimore.

Germán (3-2) allowed one run and four hits with six strikeouts and two walks over six innings. He has won all four of his career starts in Baltimore.

Tyler Wade had three hits while batting ninth for New York, which improved to 4-1 on its 10-game road trip and has won 11 of its last 14 games overall.

The Yankees took a 3-0 lead in the first on a passed ball by catcher Chance Sisco and a two-run single by Gary Sánchez off Jorge López (1-4).

Judge increased the margin with the two-run homer in the second. He has hit 23 home runs in 59 career games against Baltimore.

## Blue Jays 4, Phillies 0

In Dunedin, Fla., Vladimir Guerrero Jr. homered and five Toronto pitchers combined on a six-hitter to beat Philadelphia in a game where Phillies star Bryce Harper exited early with right shoulder soreness.

Harper was replaced defensively in right field by Scott Kingery to start the bottom of the fourth. Harper struck out in both of his at-bats. The Phillies said Harper is day to day.

Guerrero hit his 10th homer, a first-inning solo shot off Aaron Nola (3-3). The drive to right was Guerrero's sixth to the opposite field.

Anthony Kay went four innings for the Blue Jays, giving up one hit, two walks and striking out six during a 79-pitch outing. Relievers Travis Bergen (2-0), A.J. Cole, Tyler Chatwood and Jordan Romano helped Toronto pitchers finish with 14 strikeouts.

## Dodgers 7, Marlins 0

In Los Angeles, Trevor Bauer threw seven shutout innings and struck out 10, Max Muncy had three hits and Los Angeles beat Miami for its fourth straight victory.

The reigning NL Cy Young Award winner improved to 4-2, allowing only two hits and three baserunners. He retired the last 11 hitters he faced.

Dodgers shortstop Corey Seager is headed to the injured list after he broke his right hand in the fifth inning when he was hit in the right hand by



a pitch from Ross Detwiler.

Miami's Jordan Holloway (1-2) didn't allow a hit the first three innings, but ran into trouble in the fourth.

## Tigers 9, Cubs 8, 10 innings

In Detroit, Harold Castro hit an RBI single in the 10th inning off Craig Kimbrel to lift Detroit past Chicago.

Detroit rallied from deficits of 2-0, 4-3, 7-6 and 8-7 to win a back-and-forth game in which neither starting pitcher made it past the third. The final comeback by the Tigers came when they scored twice off Kimbrel (0-2).

Nomar Mazara tied it with an RBI single that scored the automatic runner, and JaCoby Jones ran for Mazara and stole second. Then Castro — hitless in five previous at-bats Saturday with three strikeouts — slapped a two-out single to left. The throw home by Kris Bryant was a bit off line and Jones was easily safe.

## Braves 6, Brewers 1

In Milwaukee, Ian Anderson took a no-hit try into the seventh inning. Freddie Freeman hit a two-run homer and Atlanta beat Milwaukee.

Anderson (3-1) cruised through the first six innings, mixing a 96 mph fastball, an effective changeup and an even slower curveball that kept the Brewers guessing.

The 23-year-old right-hander walked four and struck out four before the Brewers ended Anderson's bid in the seventh. Daniel Vogelbach blooped a leadoff single to center and Pablo Reyes followed with a double that chased Anderson.

Reliever A.J. Minter gave up a sacrifice fly to Luis Urias. Freeman homered in the

second. William Contreras homered off Hoby Milner leading off the Atlanta eighth.

## Royals 5, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Salvador Perez hit a three-run homer for the second straight day and Kansas City handed Carlos Rodón his first loss of the season with a victory over Chicago.

Whit Merrifield had two hits and scored twice as the Royals got to Rodón (5-1) for four runs in the first three innings. The left-hander allowed two earned runs in 31 innings while winning his first five starts of the year, including a 3-0 victory at Kansas City in his previous start on May 7.

The big blow was Perez's ninth homer, an opposite-field drive on a 96-mph fastball up and out of the zone in the third. The early run support was more than enough for Mike Minor (3-2), who pitched seven innings of two-hit ball in his first win since April 23. The left-hander struck out seven and walked two.

Carlos Santana homered in the ninth for Kansas City. Scott Barlow and Josh Staumont each got three outs, finishing a four-hitter.

## Red Sox 9, Angels 0

In Boston, Alex Verdugo hit a solo homer in his first at-bat on his 25th birthday, Xander Bogaerts had a three-run shot and Boston beat Los Angeles.

Rafael Devers added a solo shot, Bobby Dalbec hit a two-run double and Franchy Cordero drove in two runs with two doubles for the Red Sox. They won their third straight and matched their season high by climbing nine games over .500.

Angels star Shohei Ohtani had a rough day, getting cut down on a baserunning blun-

der after a single in his first at-bat, and striking out his next three.

Martín Pérez (1-2) went six innings. Three relievers combined on the four-hitter.

## Padres 13, Cardinals 3

In San Diego, Austin Nola homered, doubled and drove in a career-high six runs, and Tommy Pham and rookie Kim Ha-seong also connected off Adam Wainwright to lead San Diego over St. Louis.

The Padres beat the Cardinals for the second straight night in their first matchup since San Diego eliminated St. Louis from the playoffs last season.

Nola hit a three-run homer off Wainwright (2-4) in the third, an RBI double off Tyler Webb in the sixth and a two-run single off infielder Matt Carpenter, who was summoned to pitch with the bases loaded and two outs in the seventh. Carpenter also pitched the scoreless eighth, allowing a single and hitting a batter.

## Astros 6, Rangers 5

In Houston, Carlos Correa and Kyle Tucker each homered to help Luis Garcia earn his first career win as Houston held on to beat Texas for its fifth straight victory.

Correa capped a four-run first with a two-run homer to right as the Astros got to Texas starter Dane Dunning (2-3). Alex Bregman also had a two-run single in the inning.

Tucker upped the lead to 6-1 with a two-run shot to right in the seventh.

Garcia (1-3) permitted one run and five hits with five strikeouts in five innings. Ryan Pressly pitched a perfect ninth for his seventh save of the season.

New York Yankees' Aaron Judge rounds third base on the way to scoring during the first inning against the Baltimore Orioles in a baseball game Saturday, May 15, 2021, in Baltimore.

## Mariners 7, Indians 3

In Seattle, Mitch Haniger hit his 12th home run, Justus Sheffield picked up a win against the team that drafted him and Seattle beat Cleveland.

Dylan Moore added a three-run homer in the fourth inning off Triston McKenzie to break open a close game and give Sheffield (3-3) the win in a showdown of former Indians first-round draft picks.

Haniger, a former All-Star who missed most of the last two years with injuries, hit a solo shot in the first inning to tie Atlanta's Ronald Acuña Jr. for the major league lead with 12. He singled and scored in the fifth to make it 5-0, helping chase McKenzie (1-2).

Sheffield, a 25-year-old left-hander, was taken in the first round by the Indians in 2014, and McKenzie was drafted the next year. Cleveland traded Sheffield to the New York Yankees in 2016 in a deal for Andrew Miller.

## Twins 5, Athletics 4

In Minneapolis, Miguel Sanó snapped a 19-game homerless drought with a three-run homer in the eighth inning and Minnesota came back to beat Oakland.

Sanó pounded his chest and gestured to his teammates as he rounded the bases after his homer off left-hander Jake Diekmann just reached the overhang in right field. Sanó was hitting just .114 this season before the homer, which was just his second of the year and first since the third game of the season.

It was the big hit Minnesota needed to snap its five-game losing streak and finally offer some relief for its struggling offense.

Alex Colomé (2-3) pitched a scoreless inning in relief of José Berríos. Hansel Robles secured his first save of the year despite a one-out double from Chad Pinder in the ninth. Diekmann (2-1) pitched a third of an inning for the Athletics.

## Rays 12, Mets 5

St. Petersburg, Fla., Joey Wendle had three doubles and a single, keying two big innings that sent Tampa Bay past New York.

Yandy Diaz, who had two of Tampa Bay's eight doubles, and Randy Arozarena each had three hits.

Francisco Lindor, Pete Alonso and Jose Peraza each homered for the Mets. They have lost two in a row at Tropicana Field after a seven-game

winning streak.

Wendle had an infield that set up a run in the first and doubled to spark a five-run fourth that made it 6-4. He hit a two-run double in a six-run eighth that broke open the game.

## Reds 6, Rockies 5, 12 innings

In Denver, Nick Castellanos hit a tiebreaking double in the 12th and Cincinnati kept up its success in extra innings, beating Colorado.

Castellanos also homered and singled to help Cincinnati improve to 7-2 in extra-inning games. Lucas Sims (3-1) pitched two innings for the win.

Jesse Winkler was at second base to start the 12th and Castellanos hit a pitch from Antonio Santos (0-1) to the wall to make it 5-4. Pinch-hitter Nick Senzel singled and Eugenio Suarez had an RBI groundout.

Colorado got a run on Raimel Tapia's groundout in the bottom of the inning off Heath Hembree, who earned his first save.

## Pirates 8, Giants 6

In Pittsburgh, Jacob Stallings hit a two-out, two-run homer in the ninth inning and Pittsburgh rallied past San Francisco.

Stallings had a two-out, two-run double that capped four-run comeback in the seventh that made it 6-4.

Adam Frazier singled to lead off the Pittsburgh ninth and was thrown out at the plate when he tried to score on Bryan Reynolds' one-out double. Reynolds took third on the play, and scored when Stallings homered off Jake McGee (1-1).

Pirates closer Richard Rodriguez (2-0) was the winner.

## Diamondbacks 11, Nationals 4

In Phoenix, Eduardo Escobar hit a three-run homer, a two-run homer and tied a career high with seven RBIs to lead Arizona past Washington.

Escobar broke the game open in the fourth when he launched a full-count, two-out pitch from Joe Ross (2-3) deep into the right field seats that made it 6-2. He added a two-run shot off Austin Voth in the eighth and started the D-backs' scoring with a two-run single in the first.

The homers were Escobar's eighth and ninth of the season. Escobar had seven RBIs one other time in his career, also against the Nationals in 2019.

It was a much-needed win for the D-backs, who had lost nine of 11 coming into Saturday and got crushed 17-2 by the Nationals on Friday night.

# 1st rule of Jaguars rookie camp: Don't touch QB Lawrence



**JACKSONVILLE, Fla.** (AP)—Trevor Lawrence opened Jacksonville's rookie minicamp on a pitch count. Coaches and teammates were essentially given an even stricter rule regarding the No. 1 pick and franchise quarterback: Don't touch him.

Lawrence is three months removed from labrum surgery on his left, non-throwing shoulder. The cartilage has healed enough to practice, but the Jaguars are taking precautions to make sure the former Clemson star doesn't do any damage

while he fully recovers. He is expected to be full go before training camp in late July.

"The No. 1 issue is falling," coach Urban Meyer said Saturday. "He can't hand off right now. He can't take a direct snap from under center. We're just worried about any chance of that arm getting jammed right now. ... We can't have (him) on the ground. That's the biggest thing: We've got to keep people away from him. The pitch count's not as big as the fact of keeping him upright."

Lawrence is being held between 30 and 40 passes, not including warmups, during each of the team's two prac-



AP  
Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback Trevor Lawrence looks for a receiver during an NFL football rookie minicamp, Saturday, May 15, 2021, in Jacksonville, Fla.

to work on it a little bit, but I'm feeling great so we're taking steps in the right direction for sure, just trying to make sure I'm good come Game 1."

Four rookies were held out of practice. Cornerback Tyson Campbell, a second-round pick from Georgia, tweaked a hamstring during the opening day of rookie camp. Defensive tackle Jay Tufele, a fourth-round pick from USC, was held out after receiving one positive and one negative COVID-19 test result.

Safety Andre Cisco, a third-rounder from Syracuse, and linebacker Dylan Moses, an undrafted rookie from Alabama, are both recovering

from knee injuries.

So 14 guys were on the field. But all eyes were on Lawrence and fellow first-rounder Travis Etienne, the 25th overall pick out of Clemson and the Atlantic Coast Conference's all-time leading rusher.

Etienne worked exclusively at receiver, lining up in the slot, out wide and even a play or two at H-back. Lawrence's shoulder may have played a role in having Etienne stay out of the backfield, but Meyer said coaches wanted to get a look at him in a "slash" role.

"Worst-case scenario, you have a running back with the skillset of a wide receiver," Meyer said. "Best-case scenario, you'll have a hybrid player who can do both, and that's what we're hoping to develop out of Travis."

Etienne welcomed the move and believes it could be beneficial for him and the offense.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS					
EASTERN CONFERENCE					
Atlantic Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
z-Philadelphia	48	23	.676	—	
x-Brooklyn	47	24	.662	1	
x-New York	40	31	.563	8	
Boston	36	35	.507	12	
Toronto	27	44	.380	21	
Southeast Division					
y-Atlanta	40	31	.563	—	
x-Miami	39	32	.549	1	
Charlotte	33	38	.465	7	
Washington	33	38	.465	7	
Orlando	21	50	.296	19	
Central Division					
y-Milwaukee	46	25	.648	—	
Indiana	33	38	.465	13	
Chicago	30	41	.423	16	
Cleveland	22	49	.310	24	
Detroit	20	51	.282	26	
WESTERN CONFERENCE					
Southwest Division					
y-Dallas	42	29	.592	—	
Memphis	38	33	.535	4	
San Antonio	33	38	.465	9	
New Orleans	31	40	.437	11	
Houston	17	54	.239	25	
Northwest Division					
y-Utah	51	20	.718	—	
x-Denver	47	24	.662	4	
Portland	41	30	.577	10	
Minnesota	22	49	.310	29	
Oklahoma City	21	50	.296	30	
Pacific Division					
y-Phoenix	50	21	.704	—	
x-L.A. Clippers	47	24	.662	3	
L.A. Lakers	41	30	.577	9	
Golden State	38	33	.535	12	
Sacramento	31	40	.437	19	
x-clinched playoff spot					
y-clinched division • z-clinched conference					

NBA LEADERS					
Scoring					
	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Curry, GS	62	642	357	1969	31.8
Beal, WAS	59	662	402	1853	31.4
Lillard, POR	66	595	446	1906	28.9
Embiid, PHI	51	461	471	1451	28.5
Antetokounmpo, MIL	60	620	396	1702	28.4
Doncic, DAL	65	641	340	1812	27.9
LaVine, CHI	58	569	253	1591	27.4
Irving, BKN	52	533	200	1412	27.2
Williamson, NO	61	634	369	1647	27.0
Tatum, BOS	63	597	289	1666	26.4
Mitchell, UTA	53	478	267	1401	26.4
Jokic, DEN	71	723	339	1877	26.4
Young, ATL	62	484	481	1584	25.5
Booker, PHO	66	613	336	1685	25.5
Fox, SAC	58	529	300	1461	25.2
Leonard, LAC	52	465	261	1292	24.8
Brown, BOS	58	538	191	1430	24.7
Sexton, CLE	59	520	307	1444	24.5
Randle, NY	69	585	335	1659	24.0
Ingram, NO	61	513	281	1450	23.8
FG Percentage					
	FG	FGA	PCT		
Gobert, UTA	385	571	.674		
Holmes, SAC	366	575	.637		
Lopez, WAS	260	414	.628		
Ayton, PHO	430	687	.626		
Allen, CLE	296	475	.623		
Harrell, LAL	372	597	.623		
Rebounds					
	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Capela, ATL	63	297	606	903	14.3
Gobert, UTA	70	236	708	944	13.5
Valanciunas, MEM	61	247	513	760	12.5
Sabonis, IND	61	147	579	726	11.9
Vucovic, CHI	69	144	662	806	11.7
Westbrook, WAS	64	106	629	735	11.5
Antetokounmpo, MIL	60	97	565	662	11.0
Kanter, POR	71	280	500	780	11.0
Jokic, DEN	71	204	573	777	10.9
Embiid, PHI	51	113	426	539	10.6
Assists					
	G	AST	AVG		
Westbrook, WAS	64	753	11.8		
Young, ATL	62	585	9.4		
Green, GS	62	549	8.9		
Paul, PHO	69	612	8.9		
Doncic, DAL	65	561	8.6		
Jokic, DEN	71	597	8.4		
Lillard, POR	66	495	7.5		
Moran, MEM	62	456	7.4		
Fox, SAC	58	417	7.2		
Butler, MIA	52	369	7.1		

MLB STANDINGS					
AMERICAN LEAGUE					
East Division					
	W	L	Pct	GB	
Boston	25	16	.610	—	
New York	22	17	.564	2	
Toronto	21	17	.553	2½	
Tampa Bay	22	19	.537	3	
Baltimore	16	23	.410	8	
Central Division					
Chicago	23	15	.605	—	
Cleveland	21	16	.568	1½	
Kansas City	18	21	.462	5½	
Detroit	14	25	.359	9½	
Minnesota	13	24	.351	9½	
West Division					
Oakland	24	17	.585	—	
Houston	23	17	.575	½	
Seattle	20	20	.500	3½	
Texas	18	23	.439	6	
Los Angeles	16	22	.421	6½	
NATIONAL LEAGUE					
East Division					
New York	18	15	.545	—	
Philadelphia	21	19	.525	½	
Atlanta	19	20	.487	2	
Miami	17	22	.436	4	
Washington	15	20	.429	4	
Central Division					
St. Louis	23	17	.575	—	
Milwaukee	20	20	.500	3	
Cincinnati	18	19	.486	3½	
Chicago	18	20	.474	4	
Pittsburgh	17	22	.436	5½	
West Division					
San Francisco	23	16	.590	—	
San Diego	23	17	.575	½	
Los Angeles	22	17	.564	1	
Arizona	18	22	.450	5½	
Colorado	15	25	.375	8½	

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

tices that include 18 rookies and first-year players. Most of those Saturday went to assistant coaches.

By the end of the 90-minute session, Lawrence had reached his limit and was going through plays and faking slow-motion throws during team drills.

"I want to get out there and just throw and go, but I think it's better for me in the long

run just to take it slow and get acclimated just because I'm still recovering," he said. "It's feeling great. No complaints. I'm making great progress but still just got to be smart and take it easy."

Lawrence added that lifting weights is the only physical limitation he's dealing with right now.

"Got full range of motion pretty much," he said. "Need

## 31 so far registered for Paupau 5150 Taga Triathlon

By MARK RABAGO  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

More than 30 have so far registered for the Paupau 5150 Taga Triathlon set for May 29, according to Triathlon Association of the CNMI.

TRAC secretary general Ricky Castro said the 31 athletes include five relay teams. He added that they call the event the Paupau 5150 Taga Triathlon because of the total distance of the event—1.5-km swim, 40-km bike, and 10-km run.

The swim route will be two laps out and back to the triangle buoy off Paupau Beach and the bike route will be two laps from Paupau Beach to Seafix Inc., while the run will be from Paupau Beach to east of Last Command Post.

The Olympic-distance triathlon will have several categories including individual male, individual female, and team relay men/women/mixed. The race will have a 6am start time.

The Top 3 finishers will receive cash prizes while the top overall for each age group will receive medals. Everyone who completes the course will also earn finisher's T-shirt.

Registration is \$70 for individuals and \$210 for team relay and of registration will be officially closed on May 26. Registration fee includes T-shirt and entrance to the awarding banquet that will be held at Kensington Hotel.

TRAC is using the Paupau 5150 Taga Triathlon to raise funds to prepare CNMI triathletes as well as help in hosting the triathlon/aquathlon event for the 2022 Pacific Mini Games. Kensington Hotel and Michelob Ultra are the sponsors of the Paupau 5150 Taga Triathlon.

The Paupau 5150 Taga Triathlon registration and more details are available at [triathloncnmi.org](https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=234099) or at <https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=234099>.

## CNMI

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velop their physical and social skills," Duncan said.

According to Duncan, the program follows Major League rules like wood bats, base stealing, dropped third strike, and is a true typical team experience for others on

the autism spectrum and special needs to help develop social skills for later in life.

"As many with autism graduate from high school in many areas, services plateau. In a lot of suburban and rural areas, there are no services for those to continue their path toward independence. Many travel to find the limited services which

may or may not be available to their specific needs. Realizing a lack of general incentive and opportunities for those on the spectrum, I started this organization to give others on the spectrum/special needs the opportunity to be accepted for who they are and to be encouraged to be the best they can be," he said.

In addition, Alternative Baseball also has clubs in over 30 states who are also preparing for their Fall start dates.

In 2019, the organization was commemorated as a Community Hero at an Atlanta Braves game and has been featured on ESPN's Baseball Tonight and NBC's Weekday Today Show.

## CHAVEZ

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the silver medal. Coming in at a close third was Agape Christian School's Serena Chen who finished with a time of 15:32 to take home the bronze medal.

For the 1,500m course, Chavez continued to smoke the competition with a time of 5:50:43. Grace Christian Academy's Fiona Reagan came in moments later at 6:23:74 to grab the silver medal, closely followed by Savita Sikkell who came in a few seconds after at 6:28:33.

The 800m event proved to be a challenge for Chavez but she managed to come out on top, besting the competition by just a few seconds at 2:52:14. GCA's Fiona Reagan took home the silver medal for the event after coming in just 6

seconds after Chavez, 2:56:24. Completing the Top 3 and taking home the bronze medal was fellow Lady Eagle Ella Hall who finished at 3:06:06.

Chavez took home another victory in the 200m event after submitting a time of 29:46, followed by Ella Hall who recorded a time of 30:17 to bag another silver medal. Rounding up the Top 3 was Savita Sikkell who finished with a time of 30:17 to bag the bronze medal.

Unfortunately, Chavez didn't make the Top 3 in the extremely close 400m race, which was dominated by Ella Hall with a time of 1:06. The second-place medal was awarded to Ha'ani Passi from DanDan Middle School who came in at 1:10:13. Bronze medal awardee Fiona Reagan finished a split second later with a time of 1:10:42. Chavez landed fourth place

with a time of 1:11:57.

Also prevailing in multiple events in the girls 14U championships was Patty Mendiola from DMS who grabbed first place in the shotput, discus, and javelin events.

In the shotput event, Mendiola earned herself a gold medal with a distance of 7.78m. Her runner-up, Ha'ani Salas from Tanapag Middle School, made a distance of 6.98m to take home the silver medal, followed by Ruth Zhang from ACS who managed a distance of 6:59m.

For the discus event, Mendiola's distance of 15.50m earned her another gold medal. Yucky Claveria from SIS came in second with a distance of 14.65m and coming in at a close third was Ha'ani Passi with a distance of 14.45m.

Mendiola's throw of 18.25m

in the javelin landed her another gold medal. Ellycin Aguon from ChaCha Oceanview Middle School recorded a distance of 16.33m to gain her a silver medal. SIS' Phoenix Gross completed the Top 3 after submitting a distance of 15.55m.

Also earning gold medals last weekend were ACS' Ruth Zhang who conquered the long jump and Tamia Kileleman-Hix from DMS who placed first in the 100m event.

Zhang bested her foes with a distance of 4.14m, followed by Ha'ani Passi who managed a distance of 3.82m. Completing the Top 3 was Ha'ani Salas with a distance of 3.68m.

Meanwhile, Kileleman-Hix prevailed in the 100m run after finishing at 14.14. Savita Sikkell came in moments later at 14.42, followed by Ella Hall at 14:89.



'It's an honor': The Hall of Fame's class of 2020 enshrined

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1st rule of Jaguars rookie camp: Don't touch QB Lawrence

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

20 MONDAY, MAY 17, 2021

## Chavez sweeps multiple events



KIMBERLY ESMORES

Kaithlyn Chavez, center, is awarded the gold medal after topping the 1,500m run during the 2021 PSS/ McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships that concluded last weekend. Flanking Chavez are Saipan International School's Savita Sikkell, left, Grace Christian Academy's Fiona Reagan.

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES  
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REPORTER

Andrei Kaithlyn Chavez dominated nearly all her events in the girls 14U division of the 2021 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships that concluded last weekend.

Mount Carmel School's Chavez, a rising star in the world of CNMI athletics, conquered four of her five events during the All Schools Athletics Championship which includes the 3,000m, 1,500m, 800m, and 200m events. However, she came up short in the 400m event.

Chavez, who has won mul-



multiple athletic events in the CNMI at her young age, held a slight lead from start to finish in the 3,000m event to edge out foes with a time of 13:15, gaining her the gold medal. Saipan International School's Savita Sikkell followed suit at 15:17 to earn

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Andrei Kaithlyn Chavez dominated nearly all her events in the girls 14U division of the 2021 PSS/ McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships that concluded last weekend.

## Overrated methods

Ask DRE:

By DRE DELOS SANTOS  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Dre Delos Santos writes about fitness and nutrition for Saipan Tribune and TAGA Sports. He is a personal trainer at Gold's Gym. He is featured on fitness sites such as Weight Watchers, T-Nation, and STACK.



Having perspective gives you an advantage. I've helped people learn how to become self-sufficient with their training. I had a brief stint running my own fitness business before moving back home. Been featured in a few online publications. You can say I've learned quite a bit. Yet, my first real start in life wasn't until three months ago.

As a new father, I have an entirely different outlook.

You see, I've always had a great deal of respect for busy professionals and working parents that continue to prioritize their training to the best of their ability. Well, now that level of appreciation has now grown tenfold. It's almost inevitable that you're going to go through periods where the other competing demands in your life may temporarily put you in a rut. As a result, where you prioritize fitness in your life can suddenly change. So, to see how some folks are able to navigate their own circumstances has had such a positive effect on how differently I approach things.

### Ditch the elaborate and complex

For years, I've championed the significance of keeping things simple—because in no other industry will you find more people who truly believe they're experts than in the health and fitness space spewing absurdity. And if you didn't already know by now, that drives me insanely nuts.

There are qualified professionals who give out practical insight but there are so much more who are in way over their head.

This isn't the answer nobody wants to hear, but it's the truth: there is nothing revolutionary about what we do to get in shape, and maintain it. By no means am I dismissing the complexities of fat loss and building muscle. Unequivocally, everyone will have their unique barriers to address.

That being said, making better food choices, controlling your portions, and regularly lifting weights are at the forefront. The nuances can come later.

## Alternative Baseball Organization wants to recruit from CNMI

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES  
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REPORTER

The Alternative Baseball Organization, which provides an authentic baseball experience for teens 15+ and adults with autism and other disabilities to gain social and physical skills for success in life, is looking for volunteers to help the organization's baseball program branch out to the CNMI.

In an email from Taylor Duncan, commissioner/director of the Alternative Baseball Organization, recruitment for 2021 has begun virtually and they are looking for volunteer recruits from the CNMI.

"So in spite of the pandemic, recruitment for 2021 has begun virtually. We are looking for a volunteer coach/manager, volunteers, and players to help us start new programs serving those in Saipan in ad-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Alternative Baseball Organization is looking for volunteers to help the organization's baseball program branch out to the CNMI.

dition to our many teams (approximately 80 in 33 states) tentatively set to start in fall

2021," he said.

Because the program is just starting to branch out to the



CNMI, Duncan said the organization first needs a volunteer coach to begin.

"We are looking for a volunteer coach/manager, players, and volunteers to help us start new programs serving those throughout the Northern Mariana Islands. [However] We must find a coach/manager in order to begin," said.

Interested volunteers can email the organization at [www.alternativebaseball.org](http://www.alternativebaseball.org).

In terms of volunteer players from the CNMI, Duncan said players can be of all experience levels as the organization takes them from where they start out at.

"Whether they require to be pitched to slow overhand or hit off the tee, we help de-

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